

# Jordan Times

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جوردان تايمز جريدة سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والرأي

## Oman, PLO may upgrade ties

MUSCAT (AP) — Yasser Arafat arrived Saturday to a red carpet welcome by Sultan Qaboos of Oman, amid reports the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was to enjoy upgraded relations with the Sultanate. Arab diplomatic sources said the two leaders were to discuss relations at ambassadorial level. It was Arafat's second visit to the Sultanate since the creation of the PLO more than two decades ago. He visited Oman last January. Like other Arab countries, Oman recognised the Palestinian state when it was proclaimed in November 1988. But the PLO never opened an office in the Sultanate. Oman has been playing a more prominent role in Arab politics since the sultan became chairman of the Gulf Cooperation Council last month.

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## King calls for highest-level Arab consultations on Lebanon

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has expressed his deep concern over the Lebanese civil conflict and called for Arab consultations on the highest level to resolve the crisis.

The newspaper also quoted the King as calling for an end to all foreign military presence in Lebanon.

The King denied having any form of contact with Lebanon's ousted army chief Michel Aoun, who is holding out in the Christian enclave against the elected government of President Elias Hrawi.

Israeli conflict was the restoration of the rights of the Palestinian people. However, he said, "Israel does not want to open a dialogue with the PLO or give up an inch of the occupied territories."



HM King Hussein

## No alcohol at official functions No intelligence clearance needed for civil servants

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government Saturday announced a series of measures seen by observers and Parliament members as fulfilling commitments made to the Lower House of Parliament and in line with the general liberalisation and democratic climate in the Kingdom.

organisations giving approval for the reemployment of all citizens who had been dismissed under martial law regulations for political reasons.

Under the Paris Club deal, all bilateral agreements are due to be signed by Feb. 28, but financial sources quoted by Reuters said progress has been slow with Italy, Britain and Japan.

## Palestinians assail Israel over Hussein's arrest

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians from across the political spectrum in the occupied territories assailed Israel Saturday for arresting nationalist leader Faisal Al Hussein, calling it a slap in the face of peace.

He denied the allegations, saying he paid the money for plumbing work in his Arab Jerusalem home.

Police also presented secret evidence said to show Hussein had illegal contacts with "hostile organisations" and helped to organise the Palestinian revolt.

and move the process forward." Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Maguid, speaking to reporters after a meeting with Secretary of State James Baker in Washington, said the arrest was "something we extremely regret, we don't like it."

Mahmoud Al Zahhar, regarded as a leader of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) in the Gaza Strip, the main PLO rival in the occupied territories, also condemned Hussein's arrest.

## Democracy will safeguard Jordan, prime minister says

BAGHDAD (Pena) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran has expressed optimism with the democratic experience in Jordan and confidence that "this democracy can safeguard Jordan from any tampering or attempt to create internal rifts."

Badran criticised Israeli contentions that "Jordan is part of Palestine."

Badran praised Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's peace initiative and called on Iran to positively react to the call "so as to genuinely serve the Iranian people."

## PLO scores in first election of uprising

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) supporters scored a victory in the first election in the occupied lands since the beginning of the uprising, and one candidate said Saturday the result showed Israel that it cannot avoid dealing with the PLO.

The main obstacle in current diplomatic efforts involving Israel, Egypt and the United States is the composition of a Palestinian delegation that would hold preliminary talks with Israel in Cairo.

## Syrian, Aoun forces clash; journalists protest gag order

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Syrian and Lebanese troops clashed Saturday on the northern edge of Lebanon's Christian enclave during a demonstration by supporters of Christian General Michel Aoun.

Security sources said both sides used tanks and machineguns. There were no reports of casualties.

considered as an option if Hajj was not released.

## Tanks smash Azeri blockades; 57 killed

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Tanks crashed through barricades around the Azerbaijani capital and troops exchanged fire with militants Saturday in an effort to end bitter ethnic violence, officials and government media said.

At least 57 people were killed. It was the government's toughest crackdown yet on the uprising in the southern republic sparked by a dispute between Azerbaijanis and Armenians.

Iranian authorities had closed the border crossing areas of Bilehavar and Astara both into and out of Soviet Azerbaijan from 6 p.m. (1430 GMT) Saturday.

## Hardliners, liberals clash at Yugoslav congress

BELGRADE (AP) — Hardline and liberal Communists clashed Saturday at a party congress over the pace of democratic reforms and decided to delay a vote on a key reform document.

The document declares the ruling party's willingness to relinquish its 45-year monopoly of power and to support free elections and formation of independent political parties. Elections are tentatively scheduled for April.

On Friday, the government said it would submit similar constitutional amendments to parliament.

Party President Milan Pavlovic reportedly told the congress in his opening address the current system of one-party socialism had "objectively exhausted its possibilities for development."

The opening of the congress, broadcast live on Belgrade TV, was marked by heated debates, with some delegates demanding that the document be adopted as soon as possible and other cautioning against a rushed decision.

Several delegates from the liberal northern republic of Slovenia urged the document be adopted as one of the first agenda items. But hardliners, mostly from the largest Republic of Serbia, called for it to be discussed in committee and adopted with other documents at the end of the congress.

The reform document, published last week in the Yugoslav press, says the one-party system "has pushed us into anarchy and prevented us from keeping up with the economic, technological, political and social changes in Europe and the world."

It calls for "free, direct and secret elections" and declares the party's acceptance of the right to freely form political organisations.



## Fast changes in Algeria worry other Arab Maghreb leaders

By Jonathan Wright  
Reuters

TUNIS — North African heads of state meet in Tunis Sunday to keep alive an infant regional union beset by political instability in Algeria, stalemate over Western Sahara and Libyan reservations about regional groupings.

It is the first summit since the leaders of Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia set up the Arab Maghreb Union by signing the Marrakesh Treaty in February last year.

Officially the union is alive and well and making steady progress towards becoming a regional common market to mirror the European Community across the Mediterranean.

But many diplomats, businessmen and independent politicians remain sceptical about the project and say the union has a long way to go before it starts to make a difference.

The conditions for unity are in theory ideal but if you like closer, you notice that the peoples do not know each other the volume of trade between them is negligible and each state suspects the other of trying to dominate," said Tunisian politician Chedly Zouiten.

The movements of people and business are directed exclu-

sively towards Europe... that's the reality," he added.

Relations between the five states have been troubled for most of the three decades of independence and it was during a period of regional détente in 1988 and early 1989 that the conditions suddenly became ripe for Maghreb Union.

The five heads of state encouraged by improved relations between Algeria and Morocco to the west of the region and between Libya and Tunisia to the east, met for the first time ever in the Algerian town of Zeralda in June 1988.

But since Marrakesh last February, some of the goodwill has evaporated, diplomats say.

The hectic pace of democratic reform in Algeria, the largest, richest and most central of the Maghreb states, has frightened neighbouring Morocco and Tunisia, where strong central governments are moving more cautiously towards political and economic liberalisation, they say.

The Moroccan newspaper Al Bayane said Thursday that Morocco was also concerned at the activity of the Islamic movement in Tunisia, where it is the main opposition group.

"As partners of Algeria and Tunisia in the Arab Maghreb Union, we cannot remain indifferent to this growing danger which threatens to have region-

al implications," it said.

In the past year, after a quarter of a century as a monolithic one-party state, Algeria has legalised 18 political parties, including the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front.

Algerians themselves say acts of violence and wildcat strikes are beginning to put their new democracy in jeopardy.

Tunisian officials said that events at home seemed to have distracted Algeria from the task of Maghreb integration. The Algerian delegation to a preparatory meeting earlier this month was "rather meagre," said one.

### Saharan conflict

The dispute in the Western Sahara, where Moroccan troops are fighting Polisario guerrilla traditionally based in and backed by Algeria, has been an obstacle to Maghreb unity for years.

The signing of the Marrakesh Treaty coincided with optimism that a U.N. peace plan would settle the problem. But fighting flared again in October and November last year and the peace plan is back on hold.

Maghreb officials play down the effects of the dispute on regional cooperation but diplomats say that, given the demographic weight of Morocco and

Algeria, good relations between them are essential to the success of the union.

Morocco and Algeria between them account for more than three quarters of the 60 million people in the five countries and 70 per cent of its combined gross national product.

Libya, odd-man-out because it was never under French rule, has repeatedly shown itself reluctant to take part in a scheme which falls short of its ideal of full Arab unity.

Western diplomats say that Libya's presence could cause problems in relations with the European Community but the others persuaded Libya to join because they wanted to tame unpredictable revolutionary leader Muammar Qaddafi.

Morocco, as chairman of the union since February, has supervised the process of setting up the main institutions, such as the Maghreb Parliament and court of justice.

The Tunis summit will look at proposals to take this a step further by creating a permanent seat for the secretariat, expanding the parliament and extending the length of the president's mandate from six months to one year.

Practical projects like a trans-Maghreb highway and eventual changes in customs tariffs are still at an early stage.

## Arens wants bilateral talks with Arab states

BARCELONA (AP) — Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said Friday his government wanted elections agreed upon for Palestinians in the occupied territories at the same time as peace talks could be started with neighbouring Arab states.

"It will be difficult to reach an (election) agreement with the Palestinian population if at the same time we don't reach an agreement on a peace plan with the Arab countries," he said.

He made the remarks at the start of a two-day private visit to view the facilities under construction in preparation for the 1992 Barcelona Summer Olympic Games.

Arens was scheduled to begin a two-day visit to Madrid Monday for meetings with King Juan Carlos, Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, his Spanish counterpart Francisco Fernandez and Defence Minister Narcis Serra.

Israel opposes any role for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in U.S. proposed Israeli-Egyptian meetings to discuss ways to move towards future

negotiations leading up to elections on the West Bank and Gaza.

The Spanish government along with its 11 partners in the European Community (EC) favour a Middle East peace conference that would include the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people.

On Friday in Madrid, PLO representative Hani Faydi accused Israel of "harricading the possibilities of peace" for refusing to accept different proposals for peace talks and "continuing its policy of repression" against the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

"Despite the diplomatic efforts of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, the United States also has failed to perceive our message of peace and has not seen fit to value the European Community support for our position."

He said he was confident that the Spanish government would defend before Arens "all of the Palestinian feelings" since "Spain has understood very well our problems."

## Drive launched to raise funds for Soviet Jews

NEW YORK (AP) — The United Jewish Appeal has announced an unprecedented international campaign to raise \$600 million to help Soviet Jews who move to Israel.

The campaign, named "Operation Exodus," is based on predictions that at least 165,000 Jews will arrive in Israel in the next two years.

About 1,000 Soviet Jews are arriving in Israel each week, officials estimate, and the figure may rise to 2,000 in coming months.

Officials hope to raise an additional \$420 million in the United States and \$180 million from Jews in other countries, through the Keren Hayesod organisation. They hope to gather pledges for the \$600 million total in the next 12 months and collect it over the next three years.

It is the largest single fund-raising effort ever by the United Jewish Appeal, the main Jewish charity in the United States, said spokesman Arthur Ginsburg.

The money will be spent on social and educational services — such as language lessons, job

retraining and housing assistance — to help the immigrants adjust to life in Israel.

Leaders of the United Jewish Appeal, United Jewish Appeal (UJA) and the Jewish Agency met this week in New York to plan the campaign.

The officials said 13,000 Soviet Jews arrived in Israel in 1989, the highest figure since 1979. In December, 41 per cent of the Jews leaving the Soviet Union moved to Israel, they said.

The Israeli government estimates that as many as 500,000 of the Soviet Union's 1.8 million Jews will try to emigrate in the next five years.

David Levy, Israel's minister of housing, told the UJA board that the government had set aside money for 20,000 new housing units and plans to renovate 5,000 existing apartments and make 15,000 more apartments available for rental.

The finance ministry has said it will spend \$500 million to create new jobs and another \$75 million on job retraining.

## Muslim militants demand trial of Badr

CAIRO (R) — About 300 Islamic militants held an unlawful rally outside a Cairo mosque Friday, shouting demands for the arrest and trial of Egypt's sacked interior minister, Zaki Badr.

Security forces kept an unusually low profile during the protest, the first by fundamentalists since Badr was replaced a week ago by Mohammad Mousa, a career policeman.

Police permission is normally needed to hold any public gathering in Egypt. No incidents were reported during the 40-minute rally, held outside a small, unofficial mosque in the poor Cairo district of Imbabe on the west bank of the Nile.

The demonstrators, mostly bearded and drawn mainly from the banned Jamaa Al Islamiya (Islamic Group), sat in the street while a spokesman read out their demands.

Ala' Mohieddin told the rally the group was willing to start "A

free and balanced dialogue with the government."

He said no one had the right to control or stop calls for Islamic law to be implemented in Egypt.

Badr, who arrested thousands of Islamic dissidents during his four years in office, was dismissed by President Hosni Mubarak after opposition media campaign against the minister's headline methods and crude language.

Mousa, known as a stickler for upholding the law, was quoted as saying police were holding 2,411 people under emergency laws introduced in 1981 after the assassination of Mubarak's predecessor, Anwar Sadat.

He said 22 people had been freed since he took office and more would be released after a review of each case.

Friday's protest was organised by Jamaa Al Islamiya, one of several small, underground groups working to transform Egypt into a strictly Islamic state.

It is led by Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, a blind theologian now on trial for alleged involvement in an unlawful protest in the oasis town of fayoum last April.

Abdul Rahman was acquitted in 1983 on charges of inciting Sadat's killing by religious zealots.

"Someone has to pay for the crimes committed by Zaki Badr," spokesman Mohieddin told the rally.

The government should show goodwill by waiving Badr's parliamentary immunity to allow him to be tried, he said.

Badr is a member of the Shura council, a consultative body with no legislative power.

Supporters occasionally interrupted Mohieddin shouting "revenge, revenge against Zaki Badr" and "Hands off the houses of God," in reference to the many unofficial mosques set up by militants and subsequently

taken over by the authorities.

Mohieddin demanded the immediate release of all detainees as one of several conditions which, if met, would help to maintain what he called stability and security.

Jamaa Al Islamiya distributed a list which it said named 52 political detainees held for up to 18 months without trial.

Mohieddin said the group, which he said was behind several demonstrations in Cairo and other cities in the past few years, wanted to open a new chapter with the government.

"We want a new era with no torture or humiliation," he said.

He asked the group's followers to adopt a wait-and-see approach and exercise self-restraint until the policies of the new interior minister became clear.

He urged them to "disperse peacefully and avoid any provocations."



An Israeli policeman keeps watch over eight Palestinians arrested in occupied Jerusalem.

## Europarlament calls for suspension of EC scientific cooperation with Israel

STRASBOURG, France (AP) — The European Parliament wants European Community (EC) to suspend scientific cooperation with Israel to protest the continued closure of Palestinian universities in the Israeli-occupied territories.

In a resolution, adopted late Thursday, the parliament asked the EC Commission to freeze all funds for scientific cooperation with Israel.

The resolution, sponsored by the 180-member Socialist group, followed a peace demonstration in occupied Jerusalem last month in which members of the Euro-

pean Parliament took part and which ended in violence. The motion was adopted by a show of hands.

It condemned "the brutal" acts by police to end the Jerusalem demonstration and asked the government of Ireland, which currently holds the EC's rotating presidency, to launch a formal protest with the Israeli government.

Israeli authorities have kept universities in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip closed for most of the 25-month Palestinian uprising, arguing they are hotbeds of unrest.

The extended closure has come under harsh international criticism as a violation of human rights.

"Symbolically, morally and politically, this is a very regrettable step on the part of Europe," Shetreet told the Associated Press referring to the European Parliament resolution.

"We told our colleagues in the European Parliament that if they think they can achieve anything through pressure, they are going to find a very stubborn Israel," said Shetreet, who visited the European Parliament this week

as part of an Israeli parliamentary delegation.

Foreign ministry spokesman Yosef Amihud said he would not comment until he has seen the text of the resolution.

Arich Shumer, an aide to Israeli Science Minister Ezer Weizman, called the proposed sanctions "very bad for Israel."

He noted that about 200 research projects would be affected by the proposed freeze in scientific cooperation.

The resolution still needs the approval of the European Council of Ministers.

## Runcie believes Waite alive on third kidnap anniversary

LONDON (R) — Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie said Saturday he believed Terry Waite was still alive three years after the British church envoy disappeared in Lebanon during a mission to free Western hostages.

"I hope we shall not need to keep this anniversary again. We long to be able to celebrate Terry's day of release," the archbishop, spiritual leader of the Anglican Church, said in a statement.

Waite, now 50, vanished in Beirut on the night of Jan. 20, 1987, after dismissing guards so that he could negotiate with kidnappers alone. No-one has claimed responsibility for his abduction.

Runcie said in a television interview Friday: "We have had no direct news because we have had no demands and we have no news about his exact circumstances."

"But we have enough indirect evidence to give us confidence that we are not mistaken in working for his release."

Three other Britons are being held hostage in Lebanon: Brian Keenan, who also has Irish nationality, John McCarthy and Jack Mann.

The archbishop, whose office issued the statement shortly before he was due to arrive home after a visit to Ethiopia, called for prayers for the hostages' families.

He said: "Three years is a long time in anyone's life — and some of the hostages have been held for even longer than that."

Runcie added: "The Lebanese

people have suffered more than 15 years of brutal civil war, aggravated by external intervention. We must pray earnestly for a just peace in Lebanon, for that would see an end to the hostage-taking."

A special all-day vigil was being held to mark the anniversary at Waite's local church in London.

His cousin, John Waite, said the envoy had great spiritual strength and the family believed this would help him through captivity.

"His Christian faith got him into it and we believe it will get him out of it," said John Waite.

In the absence of hard facts about Waite and 16 other Westerners missing and believed held hostage, a spate of rumours has flourished. One such report earlier said the church envoy had been smuggled to Tehran.

Most captives are widely believed held by groups linked to the pro-Iranian Hizbollah, which is trained and financed by Tehran. Hizbollah denies hostage-taking.

Security sources say the captives are usually locked up in tiny, damp, underground cells in Beirut's southern suburbs or the eastern Bekaa Valley, both strongholds of Hizbollah. They are moved frequently from one hide-out to another.

The annual militia this week showed reporters an underground cell block in South Lebanon where it said U.S. hostage William Higgins was briefly held.

His captors said they killed Higgins in July 1989.

Diplomatic sources say the four British hostages are unlikely to go free soon.

A Western diplomat said Britain's decision to cut ties with Syria, a major power in Lebanon, was one obstacle. "Restoring relations with Damascus would help their case," he said.

He added that even if Britain struck a deal with Iran, there would be no guarantee that the kidnappers would subsequently free their captives. "That would mean that Britain had to make deals with captors and that will never happen."

Iran broke relations with Britain last March in the row over the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's edict that novelist Salman Rushdie be killed for alleged blasphemy. Britain says better relations depend on progress on freeing its hostages.

Waite helped secure the freedom of 10 captives in six years. In 1981 he helped free three Anglican missionaries detained in Iran after the Islamic revolution.

He assisted in the release of U.S. missionary Benjamin Weir in 1985 and Father Lawrence Jeaco a year later and played a role in the freeing in November 1986 of American University Director David Jacobsen.

But his mission came to an abrupt end with disclosures later that month of the secret U.S. arms-for-hostages deal with Tehran. Waite denied any links to that deal.

## Toll from Israel raid rises to 7

SIDON (AP) — The toll in Israeli air raids on a Palestinian radio station and a pro-Iranian base in South Lebanon rose to seven killed and 18 wounded, police said Saturday.

They said the bodies of two missing guerrillas in Friday's air strikes that targeted the radio station in the refugee camp of Mieh Mieh near the port of Sidon were dug out by rescue workers overnight. Police previously had reported five killed.

The two transmission airds of Radio Al Quds were destroyed in the 77-minute raid on Mieh Mieh on the southeastern flank of Sidon, provincial capital of South Lebanon 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

The station was to begin transmission to the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip Feb. 1.

Six other wounded guerrillas were pulled out alive from the rubble of the station's underground structure that was devastated by several direct rocket hits, police said. Another eight people had earlier been reported wounded.

Nine hours before the raid on Mieh Mieh, Israeli warplanes struck at bases of the pro-Iranian fundamentalist Hizbollah in the highlands southeast of Sidon.

Police said two Hizbollah guerrillas were killed and four others wounded in that pre-dawn attack. The two Israeli raids were the first on Lebanon this year. The Israeli air force mounted 18 raids on Lebanon in 1989.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 773111-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Korao
15:45	Programme review
15:55	Children programme
16:10	News in French
16:20	News summary in Arabic
16:30	Local programme
16:40	Cultural programme
16:50	Local programme
17:00	Programme review
17:10	News in Arabic
17:20	Arabic series
17:30	Programme review
17:40	Local programme
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## King briefed on CDD activities

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday paid an inspection visit to the Civil Defence Department (CDD) in Amman and was briefed on CDD operations and programmes and the department's achievements in the past few years.

The briefing was presented by CDD Director Major General Adil Al Ghoul.

After the briefing, the King toured the CDD operations room which has an early alarm system which responds to calls to put out fires, a siren system,

and other areas, and was briefed on their functions and training programmes.

King Hussein also inspected vehicles used in rescue and back-up operations and medical equipment used to provide emergency and first-aid services for victims of road accidents on highways and remote villages.

King Hussein was accompanied on the tour by Royal Court Chief Staff Zaid Ben Shaker and Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid.

## 149 nurses graduate

AMMAN (J.T.) — A total of 149 male and female nurses graduated Saturday after completing training courses in nursing and midwifery at the Amman, Zarqa, and Irbid nursing schools.

Her Majesty Queen Noor, who attended the graduation ceremony, delivered a brief speech congratulating the graduates and expressing appreciation to all nurses whose profession, she said, is the noblest since they offer comfort to patients and help to relieve their sufferings.

"Our responsibilities are great in this field" and it is essential for Jordan to pursue a programme of developing the nursing profession in order to meet the Kingdom's need of qualified nurses and midwives," the Queen said.

At the outset of the ceremony, Minister of Health Mohammed Adhoub Al Zaben delivered a

speech outlining programmes for providing training for nurses and midwives and assistant nurses. He said besides training in Jordan some of the nurses were sent abroad to acquire higher qualifications.

The duration of training at the Irbid, Amman and Zarqa colleges is 36 months for nursing and 27 for midwives.

Following the training periods, employment is ensured by the Ministry of Health at various hospital and clinics.

The Ministry of Health is currently working on the construction of new premises for its nursing colleges in the three cities, and plans to increase the capacity of its nursing schools and to develop curricula and teaching methods in order to achieve self-sufficiency of nurses by the year 2000.

## RJ reshuffles staff

AMMAN (Petra) — Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national air carrier, Saturday announced the appointment of Nizar Arnyne, a Pakistani national, as head of the airline's legal affairs. A statement released by RJ's main office said that Arnyne was designated as RJ director-general.

According to the statement, several other changes and transfers have been made aimed at facilitating and coordinating channels of communications with various departments.

Under the new set up, Iyad Al Khalid becomes executive deputy director for the commercial department (marketing, sales, freight, international relations, advertising, and public relations); Aqel Bilalji will be executive deputy director for passenger services; Sami Ureikat will be executive deputy director of engineering and maintenance department;

Captain Nasir Jumaini will be executive deputy director for the air operations department; Abed Qantar will be executive deputy director for personnel; Ghassan Ali will be executive deputy director for planning; and Zaid Kilani will be director of the control department.

In another statement Saturday, RJ said its training centre organized 217 training courses in the past year attended by 3,216 airline officers from Jordan and other airlines.

Several civil aviation pilots from Turkey began a training course this month on simulators for Tristar-360 aircraft and another batch of pilots from Iraq started training on simulators for Boeing 777 aircraft.

The RJ statement said that the centre's revenues from last year's training courses amounted to JD 532,119.

## Moves to bolster N. Yemen links

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is presenting North Yemen with a gift of 20,000 olive tree saplings in implementation of resolutions passed by the Joint Jordanian-North Yemeni Higher Committee meeting held in Amman last November, the Ministry of Agriculture has announced.

A ministry official said the ministry had informed the North Yemeni Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of the decision and of another decision to assign three seats for post-graduates from North Yemen to study at Jordan's universities.

The official said the ministry was also willing to train North Yemenis in the planning and management of poultry industry and livestock as well as veterinary services associated with them. He said that North Yemen had been informed Jordan's readiness also to provide training to North Yemeni personnel in afforestation, planting of fruit trees, main-

taining agricultural machinery and modern methods of agriculture.

The official said that the director of the Agricultural Marketing Organisation (AMO) recently paid a visit to North Yemen and took part in study designed to establish a North Yemeni agricultural marketing corporation, benefiting from Jordan's expertise and experiences.

The official said the Ministry of Agriculture would provide training to 11 North Yemeni agricultural engineers in plasticiculture, horticulture and other relevant skills between Jan. 25 and Feb. 3 in Amman.

According to the official, the Ministry of Agriculture also offered to sell North Yemen livestock products as well as table eggs of which Jordan produces more than 500 million annually in addition to fodder concentrates and veterinary medicine produced in the Kingdom.

## CRS probes means of expanding work

AMMAN (Petra) — The representative of the Catholic Relief Service (CRS) in Jordan, Vicky Denman, Saturday discussed at a meeting with Minister of Social Development Abdul Majid Shriedeh means of expanding CRS operations in Jordan.

A statement following the meeting said that a review of the CRS projects in the Kingdom was made, with the main focus on schemes that can be extended to other parts of the country.

The CRS, according to the Ministry of Social Development,

was established in Jordan in 1961 with the purpose of providing clothing, food and medical and educational equipment to needy groups and individuals. So far the CRS carried out several agricultural projects in cooperation with the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) and has set up a food centre at Karak in cooperation with the ministries of social development and education. In addition, the CRS presented gifts of sewing machines and typewriters to several voluntary and charitable societies in Jordan.

## WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition entitled "They chose 30 poets" at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ An art exhibition by Mohammad Al Jalous at the Royal Cultural Centre.

## FILMS

- ★ A feature film entitled "La Bambe" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.
- ★ A Soviet film entitled "Brides Meeting" at the Soviet Cultural Centre — 5:30 p.m.

## ACC needs complete public support — Badran

By Nermeen Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Saturday highlighted the importance of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) of Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen as "a first step towards reaching complete Arab unity."

At a regular Lower House of Parliament session during which parliamentarians gave their blessing to the Kingdom's decision to enter into the predominantly economic bloc, Badran said that four-country alliance needs "complete public support."

Badran was reacting to what appeared to be a somewhat lukewarm reception by some parliamentarians to the concept of the ACC and calls by several deputies towards establishing a more comprehensive type of Arab unity which includes military cooperation.

"When we take a step of this kind, it has to be applauded and encouraged to develop... not doubts being cast on it," Badran told Parliament at the end of a six-hour session mostly devoted to discussing temporary laws and suggestions by deputies.

Badran described Iraq as "a strong and developed Arab force," and said that "Baghdad's technological, military and scientific development exceeds the

expectations of anyone in this Parliament."

He called for strong public support for the ACC stressing that the council was seeking to avoid being turned "a pivotal council" and concentrating on achieving cooperation and common goals.

"We have already signed 27 unanimous agreements," Badran pointed out, adding that the four ACC countries would continue to meet and coordinate policies and that much "open hearted debate" had been taking place among them.

"Out of this openness something great will culminate," Badran declared.

The premier last week participated in an ACC meeting in Baghdad of the heads of governments of the member states, during which they reviewed the agenda of and recommendations to be submitted to an ACC summit to be held in Amman next month.

## Abolishing alcohol

In another development during Saturday's parliament session, Badran announced that the government was taking steps towards stopping alcohol sales aboard Royal Jordanian (RJ) flights but

Western countries as a hurdle towards the full implementation of the move immediately.

"We will ban alcohol on RJ's

Arab and Islamic routes as a first step," Badran said in answer to a query made by Amman Deputy Adul Munem Abu Zant. But, he said, such a ban was not possible with immediate effect on the national carrier's flights to non-Arab and non-Islamic countries since RJ was bound by international agreements. However, he said, studies are underway to study the legal aspects of the ban.

## Dates report denied

Badran denied charges by Amman Deputy Fakhri Kassar that a Saudi gift of 340 tonnes of dates to the Islamic Relief Agency was "unfit for human consumption."

According to Kassar, laboratory tests made by the Ministry of Health indicate that 180 tonnes of the original 340 "contained insects or their eggs."

Kassar said that the dates were ready for distribution "to poor families in Jordan through the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs."

The minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, Sheikh Ali Al Faqir, told Parliament that the Saudi gift "was of the best quality dates and was tested by officials and it has not harmed anyone's health."

Badran said tests were conducted on the dates by analysts and "we were told that they are not harmful to human health."

In the beginning of the Parlia-



Mudar Badran

ment session deputies listened to the reading of replies by the minister of health and the head of the National Medical Institution to questions posed by Kassar in December over the death of 26-year old Imad Youssef Aziz Hassan at the University of Jordan Hospital.

According to the findings of a special committee formed by the NMI, under the umbrella of which falls the University of Jordan Hospital, the doctor investigated in the death was found not liable for any medical malpractice but guilty of non-cooperation with the family of the deceased and the manager of the hospital who asked the doctor to carry a check-up on the patient.

The committee recommended that a letter of warning be issued to the doctor in question and that a special committee be set up to investigate the heart treatment section at the hospital to provide solutions to its problems.

## Jordan has become conscience of Arab World — Georgetown professor

By Mariam M. Shalhin  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — "In the absence of a clear and coherent Arab stand vis-a-vis the real issues that are facing us as Arabs, Jordan is playing a heroic role and has become the conscience of the Arab World," according to Hisham Sharabi, a professor of modern intellectual history and director of the Centre for Contemporary Arab Studies at Georgetown University, Washington D.C.

"On the local level, Jordan has begun a process of liberalisation and democratisation which I think could make Jordan the most democratic Arab country," said Sharabi, who is considered a leading academic on the Arab World in the U.S., told the Jordan Times Friday.

At present, he said, there are two main views analysing the recent developments in Jordan. The first is a superficial one that considers the recent developments as cosmetic and not conducive to major changes. The second view, to which Sharabi subscribes, is that the developments, "although small steps in historical terms," are quite significant and in the "right" direction.

Sharabi, who was on a two-day visit to Jordan, said that on the regional level Jordan had in the past called attention to Israel's settlement policy in the West Bank. The Kingdom is now pointing out the dangerous consequences of the expected immigration of Soviet Jews to Palestine. Sharabi be-

lieves that had it not been for the massive Jewish emigration from Nazi Germany in the 1930s Israel would probably not have been created in 1948.

"The wave of expected immigrants will be settled on Palestinian soil in the West Bank and Gaza, creating facts on the ground irrespective of the entire negotiating process," Sharabi pointed out.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Arab governments, in Sharabi's view, must demand that the U.S. redouble its position on the illegality of Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

He said he did not see the U.S. policy as firm and that he had questioned where the U.S. was serious in its efforts to reach a breakthrough for peace in the Middle East.

"If the U.S. continues to give vast amounts of aid to Israel regardless of (how it is used), then the U.S. must be considered a collaborator in Israel's transgression of international law," Sharabi said.

## Jordan's experiment

Asked about progress and modernisation in light of Jordan's ongoing democratic experiment, Sharabi said "real change" can only be achieved through human action.

Traditional political organisations and ideology as practised now, in his view, are totally inadequate at this stage. "What is needed is a new

thinking rooted in modernisation and a process of human action that is plural whereby all social groups in society try to implement a programme based on the least common denominator," Sharabi said.

At this stage, Sharabi believes, the main issues need to be defined. "Economic well-being, political freedoms, human rights and the expansion of democracy are the main issues," he said.

As far as the economic change in Jordan is concerned, the ethics of people have to change, Sharabi insists. "If productivity is to increase then the human productive factor has to increase," he says.

Jordan has been "underwritten by outside factors and has now 'become of age' and will be expected to deal with its economic problems without outside subsidies," he said.

"The country will go through a period of severe austerity and if there is no economical breakthrough then there is a possibility that all political gains will be lost," he asserted.

The change of the ethics is not likely to come about without a public campaign led by schools, universities and media. "There must be a populist movement," Sharabi says.

Higher education in Jordan is at this point not realising its goals. Its revitalisation is essential at this point in Jordan's history. The goals of higher education must also be adapted to the needs of society, according to Sharabi.

## Women

Sharabi believes that one of the biggest waste of a "major national resource" is the "under-utilisation" of women in the building of the nation. Equal opportunities in education and equal pay for equal work are the first steps to be taken in this direction, he believes. "We should not waste time now getting into certain futile confrontations and debate about concepts of what a woman's role should be that will lead nowhere at this point," Sharabi said.

The future of Jordan's society and all Arab societies is its women and children. "No society mistreats its women and children like the Arab society. For real progress to take place women and children have to be liberated; otherwise this society has no future," Sharabi asserted.

Sharabi is very pleased about the place that human rights have assumed on the Arab political agenda. "There is the beginning of a great movement in the Arab World," Sharabi said.

For the past five year human rights societies have been working in most Arab countries to expose violations and ultimately improve conditions. "Now is not the time for confrontation with authority, but the time for subservience to power has passed. It is a time to increasing democracy and coexistence," Sharabi said.

## ACC seeks to increase telecommunications links

AMMAN (Petra) — Officials in charge of telecommunication services in the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) Saturday opened meetings here to discuss issues that would promote cooperation in these services in line with ACC policies.

The opening session was addressed by Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Director-General Mohammad Shahid Ismail, who discussed an agreement signed by the heads of the four countries, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and North Yemen, on cooperation in telecommunications.

TCC Deputy-Director Aphram Jamil told the opening session that the four-day meeting will discuss in detail the provisions of the ACC agreement approved by the heads of state at their Sanaa summit last September.

The People's Army in the

Zarqa Region Saturday issued a call to citizens to register for military training which normally takes two months, and said that first to be trained would be those living in the outlying areas within Zarqa Governorate.

The Zarqa region, said the commander who was not identified by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, has been divided into the following zones to allow for training in degrees: Shabb, Batrawi, Hashameeh, Azraq, Ruseifa and surrounding villages and Birein and its villages.

The People's Army command will provide military training to recruits near their places of work and will try to remove all obstacles that impede the process of training.

Recruits, he said, will be trained in the use of light arms, civil defence operations, rescue and first aid, firefighting, public health safety and other related skills that can help members of the public provide a back-up force for the Jordanian Armed Forces.

Last month, the People's Army general command announced that preparations were under way for providing training to recruits within the Amman and Zarqa areas. The command announced training programmes were being worked out in a manner which would not interfere with the routine business nor with the recruit's daily programmes and their jobs in the private or the public sectors.

## Government transport costs JD 17.5 million

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of vehicles currently used by ministries and government departments total 6,900 with an annual operational costs of JD 17.5 million covering costs of fuel, maintenance, oil, spare parts, and transport allowances, according to a preliminary report drafted by a Ministry of Finance special committee entrusted with studying means to curtail the number of government vehicles and their use.

The committee proposed putting a number of vehicles out of service, replacing those with high operational costs, and transferring a large number of vehicles to

other feasible fields.

Ministry of Finance sources also reported that financial burdens were not restricted to government vehicles used in transporting employees but also to monthly sums paid to employees under various categories such as transport allowances, transport costs, or transport expenses and total about JD 2 million a year.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran has ordered stopping monthly allowances to those who use government vehicles including ministers, secretaries, generals, and director generals of departments.

## ILO mission prepares for trip to occupied territories

By Sama Atiyeh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — An International Labour Organisation (ILO) mission is preparing for an annual fact-finding visit to the occupied territories to study the situation of Palestinian workers.

A delegation from the ILO was briefed Saturday by representatives from various organisations and committees at the Ministry of Labour on what the mission should expect to find, and on what the group should emphasise in their investigation.

The briefings were presented by representatives from the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Amman Chambers of Industry and Commerce, the Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee, the Royal Committee for Jerusalem and the Office of the Occupied Homeland Affairs of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The representatives called on the ILO to adopt measures to deal with the deteriorating economic situation facing Palestinians in the occupied territories, according to Perret Nguyen, head of the Equality of Rights Office of the ILO.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Nguyen said the representatives suggested that the ILO mission should emphasise its study on the effect that the difficult economic situation has on Palestinian workers and labourers.

Discrimination against Palestinian workers by the Israelis has increased since the beginning of the intifada, which has entered its third year. The latest strident measure against Palestinian workers came in last August with the issuance of magnetic cards to Gazans cleared after a "security screening" to enter and work in Israel.

Nguyen said that the intifada has created new conditions, "A sort of emergency situation which creates suffering for the people."

"Although security reasons may be legitimate for certain restrictions on freedoms, in particular freedom of association, a main concern of the ILO, the notion of security should not be interpreted in such an extensive way," Nguyen said.

She added that the situation that prevails during the intifada had made it difficult for the ILO to implement the organisation's projects for the West Bank and Gaza.

"But we're still going ahead and we intend to further develop the programme, which focuses on vocational training, workers' education and promotion of entrepreneurship skills," Nguyen explained.

She noted that difficulties in implementing the programmes were common with all the activities of the United Nations agencies because concerned authorities had to approve the projects.

"One of the reasons the Israeli authorities have accepted the ILO fact-finding missions is because the organisation has long-standing experience in this field. If always tries to balance the views

of all parties concerned," Nguyen said.

She added that another reason might be that the ILO was an organisation that represents three parties — governments, workers and employers — and that it deals with labour and social problems and not directly with political problems.

"But so many things are conditioned by the political aspects. One cannot expect ILO missions to achieve goals on their own. But our small contribution to better the situation (in the occupied lands) is improving," Nguyen commented. She did not elaborate.

The current fact-finding mission is the ILO's 13th since a resolution was adopted by the ILO conference on the occupied territories in 1978. After each mission, a report is published and recommendations are drawn up and presented at the International Labour Conference.

Last year, the ILO recommended quick action and to develop a "real" programme to halt the economic decline, and to develop the economic structure to assist the Palestinians to meet their essential needs, according to Nguyen.

"The recommendations were more directly related to the field of labour and employment, especially in the field of associations. The report asked that security measures should not be unduly enforced, and that the normal activities of a trade union be allowed," she explained.

The ILO expert also said that the organisation expressed concern over the problem of social security for Arabs working inside Israel. She said that although Arab workers have to pay social security, they do not receive the full benefits as those of Israeli residents "because they do not live inside Israel" — (it is an unfair situation).

The report called on Israeli authorities to give Arab workers a "fairer" share of the contributions paid by Arabs to social security.

Nguyen said that the report did not directly address the problem of wages given to the Palestinians working in Israel. She noted that the recommendations were more general. "In order to ensure that Arab workers receive equal treatment in labour and employment."

Arab workers and labourers from the occupied territories, mostly from the Gaza Strip, are a source of cheap labour for Israel. It is reported that Arab workers receive less than half of what Israeli workers get.

Nguyen's mission is to collect as much information and consultation as possible on Arab workers' problems in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip from concerned Arab countries.

"The information and opinions collected will be put at the disposal of another mission which will go directly to the occupied territories. Although the annual ILO fact-finding mission goes there every February, no time has been set for this mission," she said.

## IMF training courses to be held in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Amman-based Arab Institute for Banking Studies (AIBS) will soon enter a series of agreements with an organisation run by the Washington-based International Monetary Fund (IMF) on organising training courses for Arab bankers in Amman instead of conducting such courses in Washington, according to AIBS Director Hamdi Al Saqqa.

Saqqa made the statement during talks he was holding with IMF Institute Director Gerard Teyssier, who is currently visiting Jordan.

Teyssier had met also with Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi and the resident representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Dr. Ali Adiga.



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### Sunday's Economic Pulse

THE Jordanian economy reached the point of crisis in the fall of 1988. At the time the exchange rate of the dinar against the dollar took a sudden and steep dive, the foreign assets became scarce, the cost of imports rose sharply, the government stopped payments on foreign debts and people started to feel the pinch of a crisis.

People sometimes refer to certain dates which gave signals of the impending crisis. May 2, 1988, was nicknamed black Monday, and June 2, 1988 which called the dark Thursday. Those two days witnessed a rush by people trying to change local currency into dollars, indicating that the public confidence in the dinar was deeply shaken. On October 10, 1988 the Central Bank closed its foreign exchange window and ceased to provide banks with foreign currencies because its own reserves of foreign exchange were fully depleted. The Central Bank was left with no convertible currencies for intervention to protect the old fixed exchange rate of the dinar or, for that matter, any other rate. It secretly pledged part of its gold to obtain foreign exchange, but the amount evaporated in no time.

Those dates are no more than milestones on a long road leading to the crisis. The real reasons behind the crisis were accumulating for years, at least from 1982, when oil prices dropped, Arab financial aid declined, remittances of expatriates stagnated,

Jordanian exports became uncompetitive in the Gulf, unemployment started to grow rapidly because job opportunity in the Gulf dried out, and the activities of the economy slowed down, especially in the area of new investment.

The government was expected to get ready and announce a state of emergency as early as possible. Unfortunately, three governments thought, or wanted to think, that the difficulty was a passing phenomenon, or a cloud in a summer sky that will simply go away. They decided to borrow externally and internally to bridge the gap, and to sustain public expenditure at even higher level, thinking that it is the duty of the government to make up for the slow down, as if it were a cyclical recession. Thus the external indebtedness grew out of proportions and exceeded the capacity of the Jordanian economy to service. Jordan stopped payments towards the end of 1988 and asked creditors for rescheduling of the debts. The government finally called upon the IMF for help. The IMF's certificate of rationalising bad economies was needed to convince creditors to cooperate and give Jordan the badly needed grace period.

The government postponed the moment of truth for at least six years. During those six years it continued to go as fast as possible in the wrong direction. But once the bubble burst and the crisis became a fact and not a mere threat, the government wasted

no more time. It introduced policies in the monetary, fiscal, trade and industrial fields. The new policies proved to be effective, and started to give results in nine months only. The decline was stopped and a measure of stability was restored which will pave the way for the resumption of growth.

The success achieved between October 88 and July 89 exceeded an expectations. It was not equalled by any other developing country under similar circumstances. That was mainly due to the flexibility of the Jordanian economy and its ability to adjust and absorb the shock. Other factors that contributed to the quick results were the small size of the economy, the speed of the decision-making process by the government, the relative efficiency of the public administration, the cooperation of the IMF, the understanding of the foreign creditors, and Arab emergency aid.

The year 1989 which was the first year in the five-year economic correction programme was a success as far as the fundamentals of the economy were concerned. In dollar terms exports were up by 15 per cent, imports down by 15 per cent, deficit in the budget was down by 3.5 per cent of GDP. Balance of payments showed a surplus of \$200 million. The Central Bank started to rebuild its reserves, and the exchange rate stabilised.

No one claims that the fundamentals of the economy are now in good shape, only the direction is right.

## Rhetoric vs. action

HIS Majesty King Hussein sounded the alarm at the right time when he warned that Israel's policy of "importing" hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews and simultaneously expelling Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip aims to implement the Jewish state's well-established policy of "Jordan is the solution." In conjunction with this grand Israeli conspiracy against the well-being of Jordan, there is always the fear that Israel may even resort to a naked aggression against Jordan on one pretext or another that some elements or forces would innocently or maliciously provide the Israelis with.

As for the dangers posed by massive Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel, there is little that Jordan can do on its own. These dangers are so great that they require an equally great Arab "demonstration" of will of the most serious order. The message that the Soviet Union has received so far from the Arab World suggests that Arab protests against massive Jewish immigration from the Soviet Union to Israel are rhetorical in essence. The Arab governments themselves must become serious enough about this grave development before they can succeed in influencing the decisions of the Soviet Union and others in a serious way. The signals emanating from the Arab capitals do not speak as yet of any meaningful Arab reaction to one of the greatest challenges that the Arab Nation has faced in years. How to affect a real transformation in the Arab attitude towards the wider ramifications of mass Soviet Jewish immigration and in due course mobilise Arab public opinion in support of a substantive policy against this latest act of aggression against the Arab World is an issue that needs to be addressed head on.

The real answer to these latest forms of danger against the Arab Nation lies first and foremost in introducing perestroika and glasnost policies all over the Arab World. The Arab World has been standing still for too long in matters that count most, and an Arab restructuring in every conceivable way is just much overdue. The Arab countries can choose to keep the blinds on and pretend that there is nothing to worry about and that they are immune from the massive changes going around them, or they can simply accept the proposition that there is now only one world where interaction between peoples is the law of life and subsequently face the real challenges head on with wisdom and foresight.

The dangers from Israel would never cease and the Arab Nation will continue to be weak in encountering them as long as the Arabs view themselves as a separate world unmindful and unconcerned about what goes around them. This time around Israel's challenge takes the form of mass Jewish immigration from the Soviet Union. Tomorrow it will surely take another shape, no less awesome. Yet, at all times, Arab response would continue to take a rhetorical form until there is massive restructuring within the Arab World in order to elevate it to an appropriate level that would enable it to cope with such dangers.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

SOVIET Jewish immigration into Palestine constituted the theme of an editorial in Al Ra'i's Saturday edition. The paper referred to recent statements by His Majesty King Hussein and the PLO leader about the need for joint Arab action to counter this immigration and to check Israel's ambitious designs in the Arab region. Recent reports about the immigration from the Soviet Union, coincided with statements by Israeli leaders who announced their determination to hold on to the occupied Arab lands and to perpetuate Israel's occupation so that greater Israel can be created, the paper said. A PLO official, Mahmoud Abbas, has now echoed King Hussein's warning to the Arab World about the dangers inherent in this immigration. Abbas, said the paper, has called for a pan-Arab action at the highest level and that no time should be lost in countering Israel's threats. The Arab League's secretary general who also voiced his alarm at the reports, supported King Hussein's call for a joint Arab action to deal with the dangerous situation. Chadi Klibi's statement is tantamount to call on the Arabs to hold a special summit meeting to discuss this dangerous issue and future steps, said the paper.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily dwells on the question of diverting the Euphrates river waters away from Iraq and Syria and its dangerous consequences on the Arab World. Abdul Rahman Omar says that this question does not concern Iraq and Syria alone, but rather the whole Arab Nation which, he says, is struggling to make available sufficient water supplies for its domestic, industrial and agricultural needs. The writer notes that Turkey is flooded with snow and rain water and hints that it is not actually in need to collect water for the Ataturk Dam and its reservoir in view of the huge amounts of rain water that fall annually on the country. The writer says that Turkey which is cutting the water off during the winter season, might resort to the same practice in the summer, and this could be repeated over and over again, dealing a devastating blow to the Arab countries' interests. Turkey whose crops fill the markets of the Arab World should understand the needs of the Arabs; and this question should be dealt with in an atmosphere of Islamic brotherhood so that the interests of all parties can be safeguarded.

Al Dustour daily tackled the continued Israeli atrocities in the occupied Arab lands and referred to the arrest of Faisal Hussein. Hussein's arrest, the paper said, clearly reflects the evil nature which characterises the Israeli leaders who openly fight peace and reject any moves towards a peaceful settlement with the Arabs. Israel is the only state in the world where terrorism, crimes and other atrocities are committed at the official level, and escapes punishment by the world community, the paper continued. It said that Israeli leaders have been unleashing their aggression and continuing their criminal activities against the Palestinian people to revenge against the ongoing uprising quite assured of no retribution from any nation or the world community at large.

By Richard Reuch

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. AMN's reporting on human rights violations in Israel and the occupied territories has been strongly criticised as incorrect and biased. Harry Wall and Tom Sawicki (The Jerusalem Post, December 13, 1989 and The Jerusalem Post International Edition, December 23) present six arguments questioning the validity of our concerns and presentation. These deserve a full, public reply.

Referring to the Amnesty International Report 1989, they claim that Amnesty International "completely ignores the fact that Israel is facing a civil uprising by a hostile population aligned with organisations and countries at war with it."

This is incorrect. The intifada is specifically cited. The report makes it clear that violent demonstrations are one of the ways in which Palestinians have protested against the Israeli occupation. The context does not change Amnesty International's specific terms of reference: the human rights responsibilities of governments. Amnesty International would be failing in its duty if it did not detail the "often excessive and indiscriminate" use of force, including the practice of widespread punitive beatings of Palestinians — some of which have resulted in death — and the killing of others by shooting, even though the victims appear not to have been involved in any violent activities when shot.

The article accuses Amnesty International of refraining from denouncing the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) or "PLO-instigated" acts of violence.

As a matter of principle, Amnesty International condemns the torture or killing of prisoners by anyone, whether perpetrated, instigated or condoned by governments or opposition groups such as the PLO or Hamas. This

in fact has been a longstanding position of Amnesty International applicable throughout the world. It was reiterated in November 1989 with regard to the killing of alleged Palestinian collaborators in the occupied territories in order to make quite clear our position on this issue.

Amnesty International, however, bases its work on international human rights standards and only addresses governments or other entities capable of effective law enforcement and therefore bound by such standards. Because the Israeli government has in practice exclusive jurisdiction in the occupied territories, it is solely responsible for law enforcement, including the bringing to justice, in accordance with international human rights standards, of those involved in killings of alleged collaborators.

The adoption by Amnesty International of actual or alleged members of the PLO as prisoners of conscience is an old bone of contention with the Israeli authorities who believe that any member of the PLO must, at least, advocate violence against Israel.

Amnesty International recognises that the PLO advocates violence, that factions of the PLO have carried out acts of violence against Israel, and that obviously a large number of PLO members have sympathised with or approved of that. However, in determining whether an individual in any country is a prisoner of conscience, Amnesty International applies a consistent standard: did that person individually use or advocate violence in the circumstances relating to his or her imprisonment? Membership of an organisation that advocates or uses violence is not sufficient answer to that question.

In the occupied territories, it appears that the vast majority of Palestinians view the PLO as the only vehicle for organised expression of their political aspirations.

Not all Palestinians with nationalist views personally use or advocate violence, and membership of or association with the PLO or one of its factions cannot in itself be conclusive evidence that a certain individual has used or advocated violence. Amnesty International has considered a number of Palestinians — and Israeli Jews — to be prisoners of conscience, believing that although suspected or actual members of the PLO, they had not been personally involved in any act of use or advocacy of violence. The Israeli government did not produce evidence to the contrary in such cases.

During 1988, 40 to 60 people are reported to have died following tear-gas inhalation. No conclusive medical evidence has yet been produced to prove or disprove the extent to which these deaths were caused by inhalation of gas and the Israeli authorities have corresponded with Amnesty International on this matter. Tear-gas, however, can be lethal; especially if misused by being fired into homes and other confined places as appears to have often happened in the occupied territories, particularly in the first months of the uprising. Reports of deaths following misuse of tear-gas led Amnesty International to raise this concern with the Israeli authorities in June 1988.

It should perhaps be noted in this context that the Israeli chief of staff reportedly acknowledged in an interview with Israel Radio on September 29, 1988 that the people had died as a result of the use of tear-gas. He was quoted by The Jerusalem Post as having said: "In very isolated incidents it happens that people died of plastic bullets but that happened also, and even by those who inhaled gas." Earlier that month the IDF had issued new orders to soldiers not to use tear-gas in confined spaces.

## Husseini: undisputed leader in occupied territories

By Paul Taylor  
Reuters

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Faisal Al Hussein, arrested on Friday for allegedly funding Palestinian uprising militants, is universally regarded as the pre-eminent Arab nationalist leader in the Israeli-occupied territories.

Son of a Palestinian military commander who fought and was killed by Israel in the 1948 Middle East war, Hussein advocates a dialogue to convince all sectors of Israeli society of the need for a Palestinian state alongside the Jewish state.

Israeli police arrested him after court documents alleged he paid members of an outlawed Palestinian popular army to buy uniforms. Hussein denied the charge.

Israeli rightists brand him the "chief terrorist" — the secret leader of the 25-month-old Arab uprising against Israeli rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Palestinians and Israeli leftists see him as a man of peace.

"Faisal has become the symbol of the cause the Palestinian people decided on — the cause of peace," said philosopher Sari Nusseibeh, a close associate.

Hussein, 49, told Reuters in a recent interview that having changed Arab and world public opinion, Palestinians must work on changing Israeli attitudes in the third year of the uprising.

"In the beginning there will be a move to the right (in Israel), but people will realise more and more that the main loser will be the Israelis — their morality, their principles, their belief in democracy," he said.

A relative of Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yas-

ser Arafat, Hussein heads one of Jerusalem's patrician families with impeccable nationalist and Islamic credentials.

He was a political prisoner without trial when the uprising erupted in December 1987 but Israeli security sources say he played a key role in guiding the revolt from his prison cell.

In mid-1988, during a brief break in his imprisonment, he drafted a declaration of independence which strongly influ-

enced the Palestine National Council's declaration of a Palestinian state later that year.

A member of the Higher Islamic Council, he was regarded as one of the few PLO supporters who had influence with the rival Islamic fundamentalist resistance movement Hamas.

Released in January 1989 after six more months in jail without trial, Hussein became the uprising's leading spokesman.

He advocated civil disobedience and mobilised international support for a tax boycott in the West Bank town of Beit Sahour.

The Israeli army closed off part of central Jerusalem last October in an unprecedented move to prevent him holding a news conference in support of the tax strike.

Addressing foreign correspondents a few days earlier, Hussein adopted an almost prime ministerial tone.

"Without a Palestinian state, there will be no peace," he declared. He condemned the killing of Arabs who collaborated with Israel's secret police, saying no people in history had allowed such "stinkers" to live in their midst.

Hussein was born in Baghdad in 1940 after his father, Abdul Kader Al Hussein, and a cousin, Haj Amin Hussein, the grand mufti of Jerusalem, were expelled from Palestine by the British.

He grew up in Cairo, underwent military training in Iraq and Syria and served in the Palestinian army, a precursor of the Palestine Liberation Army.

He returned east Jerusalem shortly before the 1967 Middle East war and was in the city when Israeli troops occupied the Arab sector.

"At first the idea was that the Jews were European settlers and it was our right to throw them out. But in 1967 we started to face Israelis not only as an army but as individuals," he told the Jerusalem Post newspaper in 1987.

"We saw them as fathers, mothers, children with no other place to go. To force them to go would mean making them refugees. They would suffer as we do now," he said.

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In November, 1988, judges for the Israeli Supreme Court noted overcrowding as the main problem and criticised certain disciplinary measures taken against detainees. Conditions in the camp were criticised during the year by first-hand independent observers such as the New York-based Lawyers Committee for Human Rights.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases without reservations. This is the reason for our opposition to the imposition of the death penalty on John Demjanjuk. Harry Wall and Tom Sawicki find its location in the report strange. The normal practice in structuring country entries in our annual report is to illustrate death penalty cases af-

ter having illustrated cases of ill-treatment or torture. This is also the structure of the entry on Israel and the occupied territories.

Finally, I wish to stress that, painful as it may be for anyone in a country whose human rights record has been criticised to accept the validity of the critique, I can assure you that Amnesty International is at pains to apply consistent standards to every nation — the standards established under international law for the universal protection of human rights by all governments.

The writer heads Amnesty International's Press and Publications Department. The article is reprinted from the Jerusalem Post.

### OPEN FORUM

#### A bird's eye view

THIS "episode" is dedicated to all you people out there who have given this series of articles good reviews. Like I said last time, I have been conducting my own opinion poll. So far the results have been encouraging, so I guess I will continue what I have started.

Most people I talked to agreed with what I have been saying, but I am sure there must be some reader somewhere who doesn't. If you don't agree, consider this a special invitation to write to Open Forum and I am quite sure the editor will cooperate in getting a good debate going. If you do decide to write, let me give you a warning, I love debates.

At any rate, thank you all for being a good "audience". Let's get on with some observations:

— On and off, (more off than on) different government departments, like the Ministry of Tourism or some municipalities, have tried to conduct anti-litter campaigns. Unfortunately, so far these efforts have not been very effective. I have an idea that may work. Anyone caught littering (in any way) would have to appear in court. The litter bug then has a choice: either the payment of a rather hefty fine, or, alternatively, having all charges dropped. But, to have the charges dropped, the accused, will have, to prove to the court that such uncivilised behaviour is nothing but normal since that person, in his/her own home, actually throws empty cans and bottles in the garden, dumps ashtrays and puts out cigarettes on the living room floor, spits in the bedroom and drops used tissues in the kitchen.

Come on, people, this country is home to us all. Treat it as one! (Hats off to Mr. Arslan Ramadan for his efforts in cleaning up the airport highway)

— Do you know the difference between local time and real time? When someone says to you that he will come to meet with you at 10 a.m., this is real time. When he shows up at 11:30 a.m., that is really 10 a.m. local time. I wish we could change the system whereby everyone gets paid an hourly wage, and maybe then they will start to make a difference.

— I wish modern medicine would find:

A vaccine for people who are allergic to standing in line.

A cure for those afflicted with a disease that doesn't let them admit their mistakes.

An antidote for the "can't stand letting anyone else get the credit for this achievement" sickness.

Margita Hamrick

### LETTERS

#### Matter of training

To the Editor:

IF the comments reported by Nur Sami on tourism (Jordan Times, Thursday 18 January) are correct, there cannot be much hope for its future in Jordan.

It is a matter of common knowledge that the situation in Aqaba is unsatisfactory — it has been for a long time. For Nasri Attalah to say that his inspectors find everything in tip top condition is extraordinary. Perhaps an unscheduled incognito visit might change his mind.

Opinion leaders like the chairman of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce mould the minds of managements of graduates/trainees coming into industry. It is nonsense to say Jordanians do not like serving others, especially in the dispensing of hospitality through tourism services. It is a matter of training.

In recent years, Jordan's national airline has striven successfully to raise its standards, at all levels, to those of its richer international competitors. To fly RJ today is to receive pleasant, friendly service. This week my wife and I have been staying at the Plaza Hotel Amman, where the standard of service in every department was just about perfect, even to the selection and serving of wine. Such service, transferred here to Cyprus (a country with a thriving tourism industry) would be the envy of the hotel industry!

Jordanians are very often proud and happy to serve. All they need is to be guided and led by example. It is one of life's privileges to make other people happy. Working in tourism can and should be a fine vocation.

Maybe Attalah and Asfour should look out into the real world sometime.

Patrick Skinner  
Cyprus

Due to a technical error the Jordan Times inadvertently dropped the name of the writer of the Open Forum dated Jan. 20, 1990. The writer's name is E. Yaghi.





As the Palestinian uprising entered its third year, Amnesty International continues to monitor Israeli abuse of Palestinian human rights. The article on the left focuses on the Israeli army's use of force against civilians while the second article cites incidents in which Israeli forces kill innocent children.

## Killings by Israeli forces

UNARMED Palestinian civilians have been shot dead by Israeli forces, Amnesty International says, in the occupied territories since the start of the intifada in December 1987. The number of deaths has exceeded 540 by the end of October 1989.

Existing guidelines for the use of firearms as well as the pattern of killings and subsequent investigations suggest the Israeli authorities are effectively condoning, perhaps even encouraging, extrajudicial executions as a means of controlling the unrest. During the intifada protests by Palestinians against the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip have taken many forms. The protests have included demonstrations and riots in which roads are blocked and stones and other missiles — including petrol bombs — are thrown at Israeli forces or civilians. Several hundred Israelis are reported to have been injured, and a number of Israeli soldiers and civilians have been killed. By the end of October 1989 about 130 Palestinians had been killed by other Palestinians. Most of them were suspected of "collaborating" with the Israeli authorities.

The Israel Defence Force (IDF), the paramilitary Border Police and other forces responsible for law enforcement in the occupied territories have tried to stop the disturbances by shooting at demonstrators, using tear-gas and by severely beating detainees. The use of force has often been excessive and indiscriminate. Hundreds have been killed and thousands injured as a result. Several Palestinians have also been killed and injured in attacks by Israeli settlers and by other Palestinians believed to be "collaborators".

AI has repeatedly expressed concern about violations of human rights committed by Israeli forces in response to the intifada. The organisation is particularly concerned that the guidelines regulating the circumstances in which troops can open fire may permit unjustifiable killings. In practice, the restrictions imposed by these guidelines are reportedly often disregarded. The authorities appear not to have taken adequate measures to promptly investigate fatal incidents and punish those found guilty of abuses.

### Official guidelines on opening fire

Israeli forces in the occupied territories are equipped with weapons which fire at least four types of ammunition. The use of these weapons is regulated by specific guidelines indicating when troops can open fire and what procedures are to be followed when they do. The scope of the guidelines has been progressively extended during the course of the intifada.

Guidelines in force throughout the intifada permit the use of live ammunition to arrest suspects. The procedure requires soldiers to first shout an order to halt, then fire in the air, and then fire at the suspect, aiming at the legs. It is not clear how serious an offence must be before the procedure can be initiated, but since September 1989 soldiers have been allowed to treat people wearing masks as suspects and consequently to use live ammunition in their efforts to arrest them.

The same guidelines are followed in response to life-threatening situations, except when soldiers are fired on, or — since March 1988 — are confronted by an individual in the act of throwing a petrol bomb. In both such circumstances soldiers are apparently authorised to open fire on the attacker without warning.

Special plastic bullets were introduced in August 1988 with the intention, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin was quoted as saying, of wounding more people during demonstrations or riots but causing fewer fatalities. "The rioters are suffering more casualties. That is precisely our aim." In October 1988 the attorney general stated that the sole purpose of the use of plastic bullets was to disperse rioters, not to deter them through injury.

During January 1989 official statements indicated that plastic bullets were to be fired at people involved in activities such as leading a demonstration, throwing stones or building roadblocks. Following suggestions that plastic bullets could be fired at fleeing rioters, the chief legal officer of the IDF was quoted, early in February, as saying that soldiers may not shoot plastic bullets at fleeing rioters unless they were fleeing "in order to improve their positions and continue the riot." The same

month, following a review conducted by the Ministry of Justice, these existing guidelines were officially endorsed. Since July in the Gaza Strip and August in the West Bank, Israeli forces have also been allowed to fire plastic bullets at people wearing masks. The guidelines for opening fire with plastic bullets require soldiers to first fire a warning shot in the air; then fire at the person's legs — below the knee — only if the terrain allows for accurate aiming. Soldiers must avoid firing at women and children under 16. Plastic bullets should not be used at a range less than 70 metres, beyond which they are supposed to be non-lethal. When plastic bullets are fired at masked people, the procedures for the arrest of suspects must be followed. It is not clear whether this means that soldiers are authorised to fire plastic bullets at a range less than 70 metres.

Cylindrical rubber bullets, in use since the early months of the intifada, and rubber-coated metal pellets or "marbles", introduced at the end of 1988, are apparently fired as multiple bullets. They are said to be non-lethal unless they are fired at close range.

The existing guidelines on the use of firearms by Israeli forces appear to permit the killing of people who are involved in activities which do not necessarily endanger life, or are suspected of having been involved in such activities or who are in fact simply wearing masks. If so, these guidelines are incompatible with the 1979 United Nations Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, Article 3 of which states: "Law enforcement officials may use force only when strictly necessary and to the extent of required for the performance of their duty."

With regard to firearms, the Commentary of this Article specifies: "The use of firearms is considered an extreme measure. Every effort should be made to exclude the use of firearms, especially against children. In general, firearms should not be used except when a suspected offender offers armed resistance or otherwise jeopardises the lives of others and less extreme measures are not sufficient to restrain or apprehend the suspected offender. In every instance in which firearms are discharged, a report should be made promptly to the competent authorities."

The Israeli authorities have stated to AI that the Code of Conduct is not legally binding on governments and that it is not intended to apply to situations such as exist in occupied territories. However, AI believes that the Code embodies the internationally recognised principles of necessity and proportionality in the use of force, which are intended to safeguard international legal rights, foremost among which is the right to life and the prohibition of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Such rights must be protected under all circumstances.

## The victims

Almost half of the over 540 unarmed civilians shot dead by Israeli forces between December 1987 and October 1989 were aged 18 or below. More than 110 of the victims were aged 16 or below, and included children as young as three and four.

MOST of the victims were killed by ordinary bullets, although by the end of September 1989 as many as 117 had been killed by plastic bullets. Several others were reportedly killed by "marbles" and some also by rubber bullets.

Most of the killings appear to have taken place in the context of demonstrations or riots and those killed include people reported to have been involved in life-threatening activities. However, in an alarming high number of instances the victims do not appear to have been involved in any life-threatening activities, or in any violent activity whatsoever, when they were shot. They were often children, or were running away. In some cases, incidents in which people often children — were shot, it is not clear that, although violent, such incidents constituted a danger serious enough to justify the use of firearms.

In a number of cases unarmed Palestinians have also been killed by soldiers or men in plainclothes, apparently belonging to special units of the army or other security services, during operations ostensibly intended to arrest them in the streets or at home. The victims included people known or suspected to be leading activists in the intifada. Many were apparently shot when trying to escape. In addition, after shooting incidents Israeli forces have withheld or otherwise hampered emergency medical care for the casualties.

AI has documented several specific cases of people killed by Israeli forces in circumstances suggesting excessive use of force or deliberate killing. The following are some such cases, from 1989, including cases raised by AI with the Israeli authorities. To AI's knowledge, in none of these cases have the detailed findings of any investigation been made public. In the absence of such information, AI's concerns with regard to these deaths cannot be allayed.

Rana Al Maari, aged 13, was shot in the head by a "marble" in the afternoon of Jan. 7 in Nablus. She was apparently shot from a distance of a few metres when she and a number of women tried to follow a relative who had just been arrested and was being beaten while led away by two soldiers. The IDF said that stones had been thrown at the soldiers. She died of her wounds at Makassed Hospital in Jerusalem on Jan. 14.

'Atwa Hirzallah, a university student aged 26, was believed to be a local leader of the intifada in the village of Deir Ibt' in the West Bank. He was shot on Feb. 27. He and four other youths were returning from a nearby village where they had taken a friend wounded in clashes with Israeli troops earlier that day. When they reached the centre of the village they were apparently confronted by soldiers, one of whom fired at close range hitting 'Atwah Hirzallah twice in the head and once in the shoulder. The soldiers are reported to have

prevented the other youths from assisting him. He was eventually taken to Ramallah Hospital, with a military escort, where he was pronounced dead.

On March 19 Samer 'Aruri, aged 11, was playing football when a convoy of soldiers entered his village, Slat Al Hartiyah, in the West Bank, apparently to warn the population that a number of houses were going to be destroyed. When they saw the soldiers arriving, the children ran to higher ground to watch what was going on. It is not clear whether they also threw stones. One soldier got out of his vehicle and opened fire, apparently without warning. Samer 'Aruri was fatally wounded in the neck and fell to ground. One of his friends was injured in the legs. The same soldier is then said to have swung around and fired at other youths. One bullet hit 17-year-old Na'man Jaradat in the head. He died several hours later at Rambam Hospital in Haifa.

The same day As'ad Hammud, aged 14, was walking home along a street in Gaza after having gone to buy medicine. He had allegedly been severely beaten by soldiers while detained in February and was still suffering from the resulting neck injuries. Reports of the incident state he was passing a group of people who were burning a tyre when a soldier shot him without warning from the top of a four-storey building. He was hit in the head by one bullet and was dead on arrival at Al Ahli Hospital. Military sources said the soldier who shot him thought he was throwing a petrol bomb. According to relatives and medical personnel, however, he had difficulties in moving his neck and arms as a result of his injuries, and would have had great difficulty in throwing a petrol bomb.

Salem Mubarak, a wood carver and domestic worker aged 26, was shot on March 30 in the West Bank village of Beit Saleh. In the early afternoon a group of Border Police arrived at the village in pursuit of demonstrators who were fleeing across nearby fields. According to reports Salem Mubarak was working in a field next to his home. One policeman is said to have aimed and fired at him from a distance of possibly 200 metres, without warning, hitting him in the head. He was taken to Makassed Hospital in Jerusalem where he died on April 6.

Basel Ba'ara, an 18-year-old student, was shot and died in Nablus on the evening of April 14. He was in a street with other youths when Israeli forces ordered them against a wall. Basel Ba'ara reportedly started to run and was shot in the back of the neck, fell down, but got up again and ran down a side path where he was confronted by more soldiers blocking the path, who shot him. Soldiers are said to have prevented two civilian ambulances from taking him to hospital until a military ambulance arrived and took him to the military headquarters in Nablus.



Samer 'Aruri



Milad Shalabi



'Atwah Hirzallah



As'ad Hammud

It is not clear whether he was already dead.

Milad Shalabi, aged 13, was shot on the morning of April 8 in Jenin. He came out of his house when he heard women shouting at soldiers who were forcing youths to clear a road. As he turned back to the house, two soldiers got out of a military vehicle. One of them reportedly knelt and fired one shot at him when he had reached the doorway of his home, hitting him in the head. He was taken to Jenin Hospital and then to Rambam Hospital in Haifa where he died on April 14.

Naser Qassas, aged 17, was shot dead on April 16 in the Deheishe refugee camp near Bethlehem. He and other youths had been in the streets, despite a curfew, and had apparently been throwing stones at soldiers nearby. Soldiers are said to have fired rubber bullets at the group, then fired in the air. The youths tried to escape but ran into three more soldiers who opened fire. Naser Qassas was reportedly shot in the back. His friends took him to a hospital where he died shortly afterwards.

In Bethlehem on May 5, 12-year-old Milad Shalabi and a few other friends were throwing stones at soldiers stationed on look-out duty on higher ground. When he moved away from the wall he had been hiding behind in order to throw a stone, he was shot in the abdomen, apparently without warning, by a soldier stationed behind a tree at the look-out point. He died in hospital.

Also in Bethlehem, on Aug. 19, several youths were throwing stones at soldiers from the market area. Suddenly, three to five people dressed as tourists with cameras and bags, later confirmed to have been soldiers, pulled out guns and fired. Rami Salah, aged 24, was shot in the chest and died. At least two others were reportedly deliberately shot in the legs at point-blank range by the same men after being seized.

Other unarmed civilians were shot dead during raids ostensibly intended to arrest them. They were believed to be local leading activists in the intifada. They include Yasser Abu Ghawab, 17, who was shot dead in Ramallah on July 10 after a brief street chase. Three plainclothes men got out of a civilian vehicle, approached him, and as he tried to escape, fired in the air. They followed him into a side street and one reportedly shot him

several times in the head and back at a range of under 10 metres. They then prevented a doctor who was nearby from assisting him, and loaded him onto a military vehicle which had arrived at the scene. He was apparently taken to the local military headquarters, not a hospital.

Mohammad Al Agra, 28, was killed on Sept. 14 during a raid on his home in Deir Al Balah in the Gaza Strip. He was reportedly working on the roof when soldiers arrived at the scene. He tried to escape through the back-yard, but was shot in the head. Military sources said that arrest procedures had been followed.

Between August and October a

number of youths were killed in the Gaza Strip reportedly because they were wearing masks, writing graffiti, or attempting to confiscate special magnetic cards introduced by the Israeli authorities to control Palestinian workers. They are said to have been killed by plainclothes men firing from civilian cars with Gaza number plates. Official sources said they were shot in accordance with arrest procedures, but witnesses claim that their killers opened fire in some cases at close range and without warning. The victims include Isyad Abu Kamal, 18, shot on Aug. 23. In Shaikh Radwan, Maher Darwish, 18, shot on Oct. 4 in Al Bureij refugee camp; and 'Abd Abu Salem, 18, shot on

Oct. 26 in Jabalya refugee camp. During October, several of the 30 Palestinians reportedly shot dead that month by Israeli forces in the occupied territories were said to have been among groups of masked people. Military sources said they were shot in accordance with arrest procedures when they tried to escape. They include Nidal Habbash, 22, shot in Nablus on Oct. 9 — eyewitnesses claim that he had stopped and raised his hands in surrender when he was killed; 'Ammar Qaddumi, 18, and Yassin Al Maari, 25, shot on Oct. 12 in the Nablus area, Saleh Jawarish, 22, shot on Oct. 13 in Beit Jala and Nidal Hajaj, 18, shot on Oct. 21 in Gaza City.

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**By a Jordan Times  
Staff Writer**

**"Our prices are competitive**

The third area that India is focusing on in its bid to boost exports to Jordan is bulk drugs

Furthermore, these vessels do

The MMTC figure does not include other deals concluded directly between Jordanian im-

India held a trade fair in Amman in September last year, and many ideas were floated and initiatives launched in its wake, including several proposals for joint ventures in light engineering. But no definite details are available.

**Peanuts**

HERE'S THE FIERCE SNOW SNAKE SNEAKING UP ON A VICTIM...

JUST THE OTHER DAY I WAS READING THAT THERE ISN'T SUCH A THING AS A SNOW SNAKE...

OH, I LEFT HIM HOME, UNCLE! HE LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE ME!

**Mutt'n' Jeff**

YOU GOT A LETTER AND A \$600 CHECK FOR EXPENSES FROM YOUR RICH UNCLE HERMAN?

YEH! HE WANTS TO SEE ME AND MY TWIN BROTHER, JULIUS! HE AIN'T SEEN US SINCE WE WERE KIDS!

THIS ONLY TAKES A HALF HOUR!

SO YOU'RE JEFF EH? WELL WHERE IS JULIUS?

**Andy Capp**

KEEP A SMILE ON YOUR CHOPS - IT MAKES 'EM WONDER WHAT YOU'VE BEEN UP TO



## Maradona ignites yet another controversy

MILAN, Italy (AP) — Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona, who is used to creating upsets on and off the field, began a crusade this week against the Italian sports writers practice of grading players' performances.

Maradona complains that players are treated like school boys in Monday sports pages by writers who give marks ranging from one to 10 based on a player's performance in Sunday's major league action.

The talkative forward, who was

apparently stung by the low marks he received after last Sunday's match, is likely to get the full support of other players. However, the players have little hope of bringing an end to the popular soccer feature that has appeared in Italian newspapers since the 1950s.

Maradona, who recently caused an international furor by alleging that the World Cup draw had been fixed, complained that sportswriters "have no right to treat us like children." He also

contended that "their judgments are often in bad faith." Maradona urged the Italian association of professional players — a sort of players' trade union — to defend its members from the "attacks" of the reporters and to possibly put an end to the publication of the report-cards.

Merit marks for soccer players are published in some West German and French newspapers but not in England.

Maradona's complaint began Monday when Naples' most authoritative daily Il Mattino gave him an extremely low mark — 3.5 for his lackluster performance against Udinese.

In Italy's soccer report cards, which sometimes combine low or high marks with a brief explanation for the judgement, six is considered the lowest passing mark.

Dutch striker Marco van Basten, who slammed three goals in

AC Milan's victory over Atlanta last Wednesday, received 8 in most cards.

Hot-tempered Maradona, who's the captain of major league Napoli and of the Argentine national team, reportedly insulted Giuseppe Pacileo — the soccer commentator of Il Mattino — as they met at a private television network in Napoli for a weekly sports telecast Tuesday, causing irate comments in most Italian newspapers.

Relations between the Italian media and Maradona, perhaps the world's most popular player and certainly the highest paid, grew tense this year after critical comments about his marriage in Argentina and of his long-postponed return from a summer vacation appeared in the press.

Maradona said he was offended by the unjustified low mark and by a comment reading that "he should be ashamed of his almost-non-existent efficiency."

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF  
& YANNAN HURSH  
© 1989 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

#### ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ A 7 ♣ Q J 10 2 ♦ A K 10 3 2 ♠ A

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?

A.—At rubber bridge, it's probably right to take your sure profit by doubling four spades. At duplicate, you have a real headache—your penalty might not compensate for the game. We would bid, and our chance would be a natural five diamonds, to give partner a choice of contracts.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 7 3 ♣ A K 10 4 ♦ A J 10 2 ♠ A

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

A.—There is no perfect solution. If you rebid one no trump, you describe the shape of your hand but lie about having a heart stopper; if you choose two clubs, partner will expect at least nine cards in the minors. We prefer the former, since it tells partner all the salient features of your hand in one fell swoop.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 7 3 ♣ A K 10 4 ♦ A J 10 2 ♠ A

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?

A.—Because of your no trump rebid, partner's two hearts is not forcing. Since you have already advised partner of the shape and strength of

your hand, your duty now is to elect your preference between his suits. Your hearts are clearly better, so pass.

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ K 10 7 ♣ K 9 8 ♠ J 6 5 2 ♦ J 10 3

Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?

A.—Avoid raising partner's minor with weak four-card support if you can find any alternative. Here, your hand is no trump in shape and you have an honor in every suit. A response of one no trump describes your hand to a tee.

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ K 10 7 ♣ K 9 8 ♠ J 6 5 2 ♦ J 10 3

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?

A.—You are on the borderline between a pass and a raise to three no trump. Although we like to be rather conservative at this vulnerability, our support for partner's diamond suit tells us in favor of three no trump. You have a probable source of tricks in diamonds.

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ A 9 8 5 2 ♣ Void ♦ J 10 7 5 3 ♠ A 5 2

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

A.—From your point of view, you can't be sure your side can beat six hearts! Your spade length detracts from partner's defensive capabilities, but makes your hand attractive for offense. Jump to four spades to make it as difficult as possible for the opponents to get into the auction.

### THE Daily Crossword by Henry Schoenherr

ACROSS

- 1 Singer Viki
- 2 Football hall-of-famer Lou
- 3 Cornet
- 4 To shelter
- 5 Defamatory statement
- 6 Baron
- 7 Route for Hope and Crosby
- 8 Welsh corn
- 9 Naphtha etc.
- 10 Covered with frost
- 11 Two of a kind
- 12 Resolute
- 13 Father
- 14 Modern
- 15 Lesson
- 16 Solar disk
- 17 Eng. river
- 18 Verge for forestry
- 19 Ramblender
- 20 Coffee
- 21 T-shirt
- 22 Mao — — —
- 23 Cod or May
- 24 Soft
- 25 De (elegant)
- 26 Asian desert
- 27 Fall Rover
- 28 Enraged
- 29 Vexatious
- 30 Vocal of song
- 31 Sound system
- 32 Spontaneous
- 33 Eng. school
- 34 Ostrichlike birds
- 35 Asteys
- 36 Schoolroom feature

DOWN

- 1 Nap
- 2 Air, lily
- 3 Pack of paper
- 4 Roby
- 5 Sullen
- 6 Dangerous
- 7 NY theater award
- 8 Buddhist sect
- 9 Math subj.
- 10 Tropic (metonym)
- 11 Press
- 12 Extreme
- 13 Paradise
- 14 Owners
- 15 "I cannot tell"
- 16 Michelangelo masterpiece
- 17 Florence's river
- 18 Glider
- 19 Dinka touch
- 20 Canoe
- 21 Pungent
- 22 Last a hand
- 23 Meaningful
- 24 Obedient
- 25 mouthed
- 26 Tormented
- 27 Trojan War hero
- 28 pentamer
- 29 Rustin
- 30 Lovers
- 31 Olympian Carl
- 32 Unpleasantly
- 33 Wimbledon champ once
- 34 Pea
- 35 Stout cousin

#### Yesterday's Puzzle Solvers:

ACROSS

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- 2 Football hall-of-famer Lou
- 3 Cornet
- 4 To shelter
- 5 Defamatory statement
- 6 Baron
- 7 Route for Hope and Crosby
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- 35 Stout cousin

### HOROSCOPE

#### FORECAST FOR SUNDAY JANUARY 21, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Wright Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** You are having a lot of activity in areas that have to do with the little things of life but be sure to concentrate on all the details so that none of your efforts will need to be repeated.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Welcome interesting persons from a distance and entertain them in your home. Adding your attachment with emotional skills will bring you more affection.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Be sure you carry through with obligations already made to good friends. Follow advice of an expert about some home improvements.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) A partner comes forth with a good suggestion by which you can move prosperously. Your attachment will particularly respond to going to interesting places.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Home is the best place at which to entertain your select group of friends. Try to really understand just what your mate expects of you now.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Return social obligations to friends now to a highly particular fashion. A time to go with your attachment to see people you both especially like.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 21) Take members of family with you when you go out on social engagements. Be sure you only invite persons you can really trust into your home.

## Sabatini retires from open; Becker stands by drug quote

By Robert Woodward  
Reuter

MELBOURNE — A distraught Gabriela Sabatini left the Australian Open tennis championships in a wheelchair on Saturday after being forced to retire from her third round match with a severely twisted ankle.

The exit of the second-seeded Argentine from the first match on Centre Court heralded a day when the opening grand slam tournament of the 1990's finally came to life after five days of predictable results and little drama.

Just 90 minutes later Australia's Mark Woodforde collapsed on court one with a similar but more serious injury than Sabatini, triggering a chorus of concern about the rubberized court surface.

Wimbledon and U.S. Open champion Boris Becker, who suggested open organizers should switch back to grass, was unruffled on court against Frenchman Olivier Delaite.

But Becker was less happy when asked about comments made in an interview with a West German magazine, which he stood by, that he would probably take drugs if he thought he was being beaten because other players were using them.

Becker, the men's second seed, and third seed Stefan Edberg both lost just eight games in reaching the last 16 where they were joined by Veli Pajohime — the first Finn to go past the third round in a grand slam tournament — and American David Wheaton, who profited from Woodforde's retirement.

Wheaton will now play fifth-

seed Aaron Krickstein after the American defeated Lars Wahlgren of Sweden 6-7, 6-2, 6-3, 6-2.

Sabatini, one of the most fluent movers in the game, fell heavily when off balance after racing to reach a drop shot from West Germany's Claudia Porwik.

Leading 6-1, 1-0 at the time, she limped to her chair at the side of the court, with a lump the size of an egg clearly visible on the side of her left ankle before an ice pack was applied. A clearly distressed Sabatini covered her eyes with a towel as Porwik came over to offer sympathy.

The five minute period allowed to players to recover from injury had nearly passed when, grimacing with pain, she told officials she could not continue.

She was taken to hospital where doctors said she had a slightly torn ligament in her left ankle.

where but this surface tends to grip the foot and we have seen a lot of pulls and strains because of it."

Porwik now will play South African Dinky van Rensburg while American Angelica Gavaldon's surprise 6-1, 1-6, 6-1 defeat of Australia's seventh seed Hana Mandlikova earned her a fourth round clash with compatriot Gigi Fernandez, seeded 15.

"My performance today was absolutely embarrassing," said Mandlikova, a two-time winner here. "If I'm not able to do more against a player like that, it's very sad."

Donna Faber beat fellow American Ros Fairbank, seeded 14th, while number three seed Zina Garrison of the United States had to fight back from a set down before beating France's Isabelle Demongeot 5-7, 6-3, 6-4.

### Johnson stripped of record

TOKYO (R) — Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson, who failed a drugs test at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, was stripped of his 100 metres world record on Saturday.

The decision taken at an International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) council meeting in Tokyo followed a vote at an IAAF congress in Barcelona in September to strip world records and IAAF titles from athletes who later confessed to having taken drugs.

An IAAF official said Johnson's world mark of 9.83 seconds, set at the 1987 Rome world cham-

pionships, had been deleted from the latest list of world athletics records published on January 1.

Johnson clocked 9.79 when he won the 100 metres in Seoul, but the time was not recognised after his positive dope test.

American Carl Lewis is now listed as the holder of the world record of 9.92 which he clocked when finishing second behind Johnson at the Seoul games.

Johnson, who has admitted taking steroids since 1981, also loses two indoor world marks in the list of records released by the IAAF on Saturday.

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Authorised by the Ministry of Higher Education

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  - c. School of music course.
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The Jordan Academy of Music  
Shmelsani, P.O. Box 2497. Tel: 680234

Sayed Qutob Street, behind the Professional Association Complex.

The Management

Cinema Tel: 625155

### RAINBOW

#### LICENCE TO KILL

Performance: 8:30, 6:30, 8:30

Cinema Tel: 677420

### CONCORD

#### COMING TO AMERICA

Performance: 8:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 634144

### PHILADELPHIA

#### RAGE TO KILL

Performance: 8:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 675571

### NIJOUN

#### BIG BUSINESS

Performance: 8:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Cinema Tel: 674111

### PLAZA

#### SPACE BALLS

Performance: 8:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30



# U.S. welcomes Soviet cut in air presence in Vietnam

WASHINGTON (AP) — Government spokesmen have applauded the withdrawal of some Soviet warplanes from Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam and said Defence Secretary Dick Cheney would discuss possible responses when he visits U.S. allies in the Far East next month.

Cheney plans to travel in mid-February to Japan, Korea and the Philippines, three nations where the United States has major bases, administration officials said.

The Soviet announcement was not expected to lead to an immediate cut in U.S. troops in the Far East, according to administration spokesmen, but they did not rule out a reduction.

U.S. "force levels in the region are based on the long-term threat and our force levels are based on a rational analysis of that threat in the region," said a Defence Department spokesman, Edward Lundquist.

"We continually review our force posture and do so in full

consultation with our allies so that we can determine the appropriate levels of deployment," he said.

A State Department official read an identical statement when asked whether the United States would respond to the Soviet announcement by cutting its own forces in the Far East.

Administration officials discussed Cheney's mission only on condition they not be further identified because the trip has not been announced. They declined to disclose the exact timetable or agenda.

The cut in the number of Soviet MiG-23 "Flogger" fighters and TU-16 "Badger" bombers, announced in Moscow Thursday, will enhance "regional stability" and was part of a reduction in Soviet operations abroad over the past two years, said Lundquist.

"We welcome that announcement," Lundquist said. "This is part of their overall reduction of overseas operations," and had been spotted by the Defence De-

partment before the Soviet statement, he said.

At the State Department, spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said U.S. officials "anticipate that less Soviet military involvement in South-East Asia would contribute to regional stability and to efforts to achieve a comprehensive political settlement to the Cambodian conflict."

Last year, the Soviet-backed government of Vietnam withdrew its occupation force from Cambodia, and an international conference in Paris last week reported progress towards a political solution to the Cambodian civil war.

The partial withdrawal from Cam Ranh Bay was part of a general reduction in Soviet forces in Asia and around the globe, announced at the United Nations in December 1988 by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Gorbachev said the Soviet armed forces would be cut overall by 10 per cent, pulling troops and tanks from Eastern Europe and

withdrawing 50,000 of its 60,000 troops from neighbouring Mongolia, along the Chinese border. Beijing, which restored relations with Moscow last year, had demanded such a cut as a condition for improved ties.

"The number of aircraft they have deployed, and the tempo of operations at Cam Ranh was less in 1989 than it was in 1988, and that was less than in 1987," said Lundquist.

In Moscow, Foreign Ministry deputy spokesman Vadim Perfilov said up to 10 aircraft remained at Cam Ranh Bay.

"Acting within the framework of the earlier announced measures to reduce the numerical strength of the Soviet armed forces in the country's eastern section and convert them to purely defensive structure in the Asia-Pacific region, the Soviet Union has started reducing its presence in Cam Ranh port by arrangement with the Vietnamese side," Perfilov said.

# Gorbachev renews nuclear proposal

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has renewed his longstanding offer to end all Soviet nuclear tests.

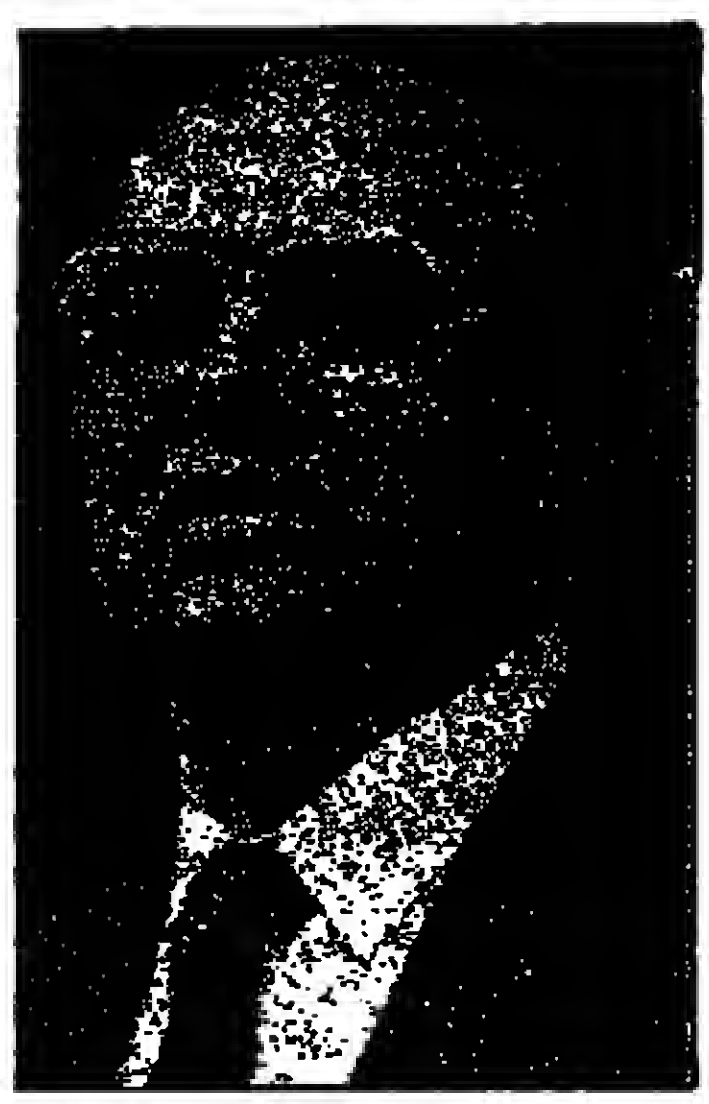
He said such a step — rejected in the past by the United States — would remove a threat to mankind and benefit the world's endangered environment.

"The Soviet Union believes that a reduction in military activity is vital not only to reduce the threats of war but also to maintain the environment," he told the closing session Friday of a five-day U.N. conference on the environment.

"We believe the most correct and decisive step here would be a total ban on nuclear tests. I hereby declare again the Soviet Union's readiness to end all nuclear tests at any time once and for all, provided the United States does the same."

Since coming to power in 1985, Gorbachev has repeatedly offered to end all tests but the United States has rejected the proposal, saying testing is vital to maintain and upgrade missile systems.

Moscow respected a unilateral



Mikhail Gorbachev

ban on tests for about 15 months, but resumed them in early 1988 and has since conducted them regularly.

Gorbachev, lavishly praised by delegates to the U.N. Global Forum conference, listed a six-point plan to tackle international environmental issues, focusing on enhanced cooperation and exchange of information and technology.

He said he supported proposals by the European Community to establish an agency to defend the environment and suggested creating a "green cross" organisation "which would come to the assistance of governments in case of ecological disaster."

# Manila uses force to oust governor

MANILA (AP) — The government Saturday used tear-gas and anti-riot troops to oust a provincial governor who defied efforts to suspend him for allegedly supporting last month's failed coup attempt, a radio report said.

Independent radio station DZRH said Local Government Secretary Luis Santos ordered soldiers to disperse some 10,000 supporters of Rodolfo Aguinaldo, governor of Cagayan province on the northern island of Luzon.

For several days, scores of Aguinaldo's youthful supporters had prevented Santos and Vice Governor Melvin Vargas from entering the Capitol Building at Tuguegarao, 320 kilometres north of Manila.

"I will not allow the dignity of this office to get trampled upon by your governor," Santos said. "We will clear them (Aguinaldo's supporters) up."

DZRH said soldiers fired several rounds of tear-gas canisters. Then, armed with truncheons and shields, the soldiers pushed the crowd aside to allow Santos, Vargas and military officials to enter the Capitol Building.

Santos swore in Vargas as acting governor at 9 a.m. (0100 GMT). Aguinaldo will have to serve a 60-day suspension while being investigated in connection

with the coup attempt against President Corason Aquino from Dec. 1-9, the radio station said.

The station said Aguinaldo's whereabouts are unknown.

Colonel Emiliano Templo, the military's representative in serving the suspension order, said about 150 anti-riot troops were flown in to prevent bloodshed. Two battalions of combat soldiers, at least four armoured personnel carriers and several military trucks had ringed the Capitol building.

The supreme court upheld a government decision to suspend Aguinaldo because he allegedly threatened to send troops and tanks to Manila last month to support the latest attempt to oust Aquino.

But Aguinaldo's supporters barricaded the Capitol grounds with vehicles and vowed to resist the order.

On Thursday, Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos charged Aguinaldo with having to vacate his office at midday Friday, but the governor said "that was not part of our discussion."

Aguinaldo, a former lieutenant colonel with his own private army, said he would discuss his options with his followers. But the crowd urged him to stay on.

The government's ability to enforce the suspension is widely seen here as an indicator of the administration's resolve to punish participants in the coup attempt.

# Washington mayor fights drug charge

WASHINGTON (R) — Washington's Mayor Marion Barry, his political future clouded by criminal charges that he smoked crack cocaine, has stepped aside temporarily as he fights the allegations and reports for weekly drug tests.

During a momentous day of events that reverberated through a nation's capital that is used to high drama, the nationally known black Democratic politician took on a new role Friday as criminal defendant.

Hours later, he announced he was stepping aside to fight the charge and turning over his mayoral duties to city administrator, Carol Thompson.

In addition, Barry — who had planned to announce this Sunday that he was running for a fourth, four-year term — said he now was postponing his campaign announcement so he can fight the criminal charge.

Barry was arrested Thursday night at a Washington hotel after agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), running a sophisticated sting operation, said they captured him on

videotape smoking crack, a highly addictive form of cocaine.

The operation was conducted with the cooperation of a black woman whom Barry knew, police said. They did not identify her.

At a court hearing Friday, he was formally charged with one misdemeanor count — a minor violation of a charge — possession of crack. The charge carries a maximum sentence of one year in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

He did not have to enter a plea to the charge, but his lawyer said Barry would later proclaim his innocence. Barry was released without having to post bond but must report weekly for drug tests.

Barry, 53, has led an anti-drug campaign in a city plagued by cocaine use and a related record murder wave.

In an affidavit filed with the court, the FBI said Barry, who had driven to Vista International with his bodyguards in a limousine, gave "a quantity of currency" to someone in the hotel room for the crack — the drug at the heart of a national narcotics menace.

# Indian 'free love' guru dies at 58

NEW DELHI (AP) — Osho Rajneesh, the Indian guru who preached free love and laughter but ran afoul of authorities in several countries, died of a heart attack Friday, he was 58.

Followers at his commune in the southwest city of Poona celebrated his death with joyous songs and dances, his spokesman Swami Chaitanya Kiriti said by telephone.

"Osho left his body at 5:30 p.m. local time (1200 GMT Friday). The doctors say it's a heart failure," he said of the portly mystic whose blend of Eastern philosophy, free love, pop psychology and hypnotic eyes attracted 500,000 followers around the world.

Celebrations started as soon as the news of Rajneesh's death was conveyed to 10,000 followers at the commune, Swami Prabhad said.

"Everybody is singing and celebrating," Prabhad said. "The

Osho had told us to celebrate when he left his body."

Rajneesh had switched from using the honorific Hindu word for God, "Bhagawan," a year ago in favour of the Buddhist term Osho, which means "on whom the heavens shower flowers."

Rajneesh was cremated on the banks of nearby river four hours after he was pronounced dead, Kiriti said. His body was carried by his disciples on their shoulders.

Rajneesh returned to his native India when he was deported from the United States in 1985 after pleading guilty to violating federal immigration laws by arranging sham marriages.

A U.S. court fined him \$400,000, gave him a 10-year suspended prison sentence and ordered him to leave the country. His once-famous commune in the west U.S., the Rancho Rajneesh, was disbanded.

He returned to India but left a month later when the government deported 10 of his aides.

# Sexual fantasies on dental chair

LONDON (AP) — Some women have reported sexual fantasies after receiving sedatives used in oral surgery, and this may have prompted false complaints to the Lancet Medical Journal.

"The fantasy-inducing qualities of benzodiazepines are only now being recognised," wrote the Lancet's legal advisor, Diana Brahm.

Her article discussed 41 cases in which women had reported fantasies, usually involving sex, after receiving the sedative.

"In the past some doctors or dentists may have been wrongly convicted or disciplined for sexual offenses when the allegations stemmed from benzodiazepine-induced fantasies," Brahm wrote.

To protect themselves from charges of impropriety, dental

organisations have advised their members not to be alone with sedated patients.

"It's a guide laid down by the General Dental Council and the president, two years ago, citing recent ethical concerns made it very clear the role of the chaperone in the surgery was absolutely essential," said Sara Sleet, a spokeswoman for the British Dental Association, which represents 17,500 dentists.

The chairman of the British Dental Association's ethical committee, Thomas Dowell, said that sexual fantasies were not a common side effect of benzodiazepine.

"But it does happen and the possibility must be realised," Dowell said. "Dentists must make sure there is no possibility of suspicion of any malpractice on their part at all."

Cosmo Hallstrom, a psychiatrist specialising in tranquilizer addiction, said sedatives since they make patients very sleepy and blur unpleasant memories.

"It messes up your memory a bit," Hallstrom said. "We know people who start taking Valium, which is a benzodiazepine, and sometimes go out and quite uncharacteristically shoplift because they are absent-minded."

Doctors are not as susceptible to false complaints, Hallstrom said, because procedures requiring sedation are usually done in hospitals where there other people are present.

"Dentists are particularly vulnerable because they are often working alone and fiddling around with the mouth," Hallstrom said. "The patients are in a twilight, suggestible state and they come out of it if and their

bra has slipped a bit or a button's undone — because the dentist has had to pull a difficult tooth — and the patient puts two and two together."

This side effect of benzodiazepine was brought to the attention of the Lancet by Dr. John W. Dundee, who had details of 27 women alleging sexual fantasies while under the sedatives.

Following his first report on the phenomenon last year, Dundee was contacted by 15 women who also reported fantasies under sedation, though not all of those cases involved sex, Brahm said.

"Dundee's investigations demonstrate that benzodiazepine infusions do occasionally produce sexual fantasies in women which may be very unpleasant and which, if not recognised as such, can have tragic consequences for the doctor or dentist," the Lancet wrote.

# Columbia lands after record flight

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, California (Agencies) — Space shuttle Columbia streaked out of orbit to a delayed landing in the Mojave Desert Saturday at the end of a record 11-day shuttle mission that retrieved a valuable science satellite.

Commander Dan Brandenstein guided the winged space plane out of the darkness to a touchdown at 0936 GMT on a brightly lit concrete runway after a journey of 7.2 million kilometres.

Columbia was not visible to viewers here until it was making its final approach just above the runway.

"Roger, Columbia, welcome home, an outstanding job," said mission control's Mike Baker. "Great way to start the decade."

Two sonic booms cracked overhead as the spacecraft descended through a clear sky and made its sweeping approach into this desert airbase.

The landing was postponed a day because of fog over the runways at this desert airbase and then was delayed another 95 minutes Saturday while the astronauts resolved a computer problem.

The five astronauts started their return from orbit an hour before touchdown when Brandenstein fired Columbia's braking rockets 333

kilometres above the Indian Ocean. That slowed the ship's 28,000-kph speed by 535 kph and started it on a long, fiery dive through the atmosphere.

Conditions were good Saturday, with only a slight fog buildup, a few scattered clouds, light winds and clear visibility.

With a recovered science satellite in its cargo bay, Columbia, at 114 tons, was four tons heavier than any other shuttle at landing.

The space shuttle was to have landed Friday morning but the five astronauts were told to take an extra 90-minute trip round Earth and then to spend another day in space when fog blanketed the desert air base.

A back-up computer, one of five on board, broke down shortly before Columbia was due to land at midnight Friday, forcing yet another extra trip round Earth while astronauts and mission ground control fixed the "blip."

Launching pad and other problems had earlier postponed the lift-off of Columbia from Cape Canaveral, Florida, four times.

By the time Columbia landed at Edwards Air Force Base in the glare of spotlights in the cold night, it had been in space longer than any other U.S. shuttle — 10 days and 21 hours. Columbia also held the record for a previous mission — 10 days and seven hours.

# C8LUMN

## Suicide bid brings a big bill

BRUSSELS (R) — A suicidal young Belgian faces a damages bill for thousands of dollars after he survived an attempt to blow himself up by smoking a cigarette in a gas-filled flat. The national news agency Belga reported Friday that the 21-year-old man, whom it did not name, had cut gas pipes and then lit up. The resulting explosion started a fire and blew tiles off the roof, damaging cars on the street below. Belga estimated damage at hundreds of thousands of dollars.

## Spurned lover turns vindictive

NAPLES (R) — A spurned Latin lover plastered walls in the centre of Naples with nude photos of his ex-girlfriend, giving her name and offering sex with her for 100,000 lire (\$80), police said Friday. They said the girl, who reported her former boyfriend to police, claimed that he had previously tried to get her back by threatening her with a pistol and by bombarding her new boyfriend with anonymous phone calls and demands for money.

# Barco cautious over druglords' acceptance of defeat, offer

BOGOTA (AP) — President Virgilio Barco warned Friday against high expectations created by drug traffickers who say the government has won the drug war.

Barco said his administration would take the best road to ensure a final victory over traffickers, who released a statement Wednesday announcing their acceptance of defeat at the hands of the government.

"The country has not allowed itself to be carried away by hasty expectations," Barco said in his own communique. "It should maintain that attitude."

In light of the drug traffickers' admission of defeat, the presidential statement said it was necessary "to take the best road to ensure the final success of the policy followed by the government, supported by the Colombian people and the international community."

The presidential communique, which was sent to Colombian and foreign media, did not specify what, if any, new steps the government would take to cement a victory over drug trafficking.

It did not mention Colombia's policy of extraditing drug-traf-

ficking suspects wanted by the United States to that country for trial. The policy was implemented last summer to move drug traffickers out of the Colombian judicial system, which had been battered with killings, threats and bribery.

"The Extraditables" said in the Wednesday communique that they were conceding victory to the government in a drug war that was intensified last August, after traffickers named down a leading presidential candidate — Senator Luis Carlos Galan.

In the communique, the group offered to abandon the cocaine trade, lay down its arms, call a halt to its terrorist campaign and release all of its hostages. In return it asked only for "constitutional and legal guarantees" for the state.

The communique was delivered to the government by the first of two cartel hostages that were released, Patricia Echavaria, the sister of President Barco's son-in-law, and her daughter Diana were freed Wednesday in Medellin.

Traffickers released another hostage, Mauricio Toro, Thursday in the city after forcing the

23-year-old merchant to memorise a message for U.S. President George Bush. The message urged Bush to take traffickers at their word when they said they were ready to surrender.

Barco, responding to reports of the cartel's surrender, had earlier said that the Medellin cartel could not be believed.

The cartel continues to hold at least 18 hostages, including Alvaro Diego Montoya, the son of Barco's general secretary and closest advisor, German Montoya.

The Extraditables' communique has sparked debate between political leaders who view it as an unconditional surrender and those who consider it yet another ploy by traffickers trying to persuade the government to end extradition of Colombia's to the United States where many of them are wanted.

The Medellin cartel has repeatedly offered to halt cocaine shipments abroad, turn over processing laboratories and arms, and cooperate in fighting other traffickers. In return it has asked for amnesty for past crimes and an end to extradition.

# Global weather (major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	03	37	06 Cloudy
ATHENS	02	38	18 Cloudy
BAHRAIN	10	50	55 Clear
BANGKOK	22	32	31 Clear
BUENOS AIRES	16	61	29 Clear
CAIRO	10	59	18 Clear
CHICAGO	04	24	13 Snow
COPENHAGEN	04	38	45 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	02	35	01 Cloudy
GENEVA	04	25	04 Cloudy
HONG KONG	12	54	17 Cloudy
ISTANBUL	02	38	06 Cloudy
LONDON	05	43	11 Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	08	16	01 Clear
MADRID	00	32	12 Clear
MECCA	15	59	30 Cloudy
MONTREAL	18	03	08 21 Cloudy
MOSCOW	03	37	08 Cloudy
NEW DELHI	12	54	25 Clear
NEW YORK	02	35	04 Cloudy
PARIS	05	41	08 Clear
ROME	08	27	14 57 Cloudy
SYDNEY	20	68	81 87 Rainy
TOKYO	04	38	08 Cloudy
VIENNA	01	33	04 38 Rain

# THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Herb Ertzen

A LA CARTE  
By Olive Dunn

ACROSS

1 Freshwater fish  
2 Lower (light)  
3 Series bargains  
4 Rascals  
5 Sounds of  
6 Suffer  
7 Border lake  
8 "Parade"  
9 Liqueur  
10 Soft drink  
11 Flower cluster  
12 A garden  
13 Source of  
14 Pin  
15 In a  
16 In a  
17 Kind of effort  
18 Taker care of  
19 Bond

DOWN

1 Dull-witted  
2 Antiquing device  
3 Sore  
4 Photograph  
5 Transfer design  
6 Prehistoric  
7 Blind  
8 Naval worker  
9 Leaves  
10 Domestic  
11 Exaggerated  
12 Inlet  
13 Despoiled ruler  
14 Pin  
15 In a  
16 Appropriation  
17 Kind of effort  
18 Taker care of  
19 Bond

20 Profoundly  
21 Inlet  
22 Original Briton  
23 Road to Rome  
24 Suffer  
25 Valid reasoning  
26 Order the return  
27 Inlet  
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